Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 8/25/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:15 PM **Departure:** 7:05 PM

CCLC-49426
Tuckston UMC Care and Learning Center
4175 Lexington Road Athens, GA 30605 Clarke County
(706) 255-6577

Special Investigations Unit Sr. Specialist
Lesley Barrett
Phone: (470) 382-8783
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lesley.barrett@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
08/25/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
08/25/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
04/16/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing

Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.

Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
Support - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.
Deficient - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Main	C/5R- 4 year olds and up	Four Year Olds	1	5	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D4R- 3's	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	E/3R- 2's and 1's	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	G/1R		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Infant First Right	Infants	2	6	C	6	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 105	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 106	Infants	2	4	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room 110	One Year Olds	1	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 81				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 51		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 81				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A- All ages	63	C

Enrolled Children

Infant (0-12 months)	Toddler (1-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care)	School Age (before/after care only)	GA PreK only	Summer Only
10	29	28	0	0	0

Comments
08-25-2026: The investigative findings were concluded on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

CCLC Indicator Manual

For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx.

Compliance at a Glance

For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: https://families.decal.ga.gov.

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).

Please refer to the website, http://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx , for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at http://gbi.georgia.gov to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), do the following:

1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)

Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities **Met**

Comment
Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Met**

Comment
Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR) **Met**

Comment
Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2026

Corrected on 8/25/2026
.25(13) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/16/2026

Corrected on 8/25/2026
.25(3) -Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed that the door leading to the first stall on the right in the large boys' restroom had been repaired and was functional, secure, and in good condition

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical **Met**

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2026

Corrected on 8/25/2026
.25(19) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed children present at the center receiving direct care only in areas and rooms that had been approved by the Department.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on an observation that the green picnic table located on the center playground was not maintained in good repair. Specifically, screws were missing from the seating area, causing the seat to be unstable.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2026

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Defer**

Defer
591-1-1-.15(1);

Consultant was not present when meals brought from home were served to children at the center. This citation will be deferred for evaluation during the next regulatory visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center Staff will serve foods that meet the USDA guidelines.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2026

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2026

Corrected on 8/25/2026
.15(7) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed that the snack served to children during snack time did not present a choking hazard and was appropriate for the ages and developmental abilities of the children in care.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.10(5) requires that Center Staff shall not leave infants or children unattended while being diapered or having their clothes changed on the diaper changing surface.

It was determined based on an observation that a 2-year-old child in Room 105 was left unattended on a diapering table while a staff member searched for an item on the classroom floor before returning to the diapering table to complete the child's diaper change.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure Staff are trained, procedures are reviewed periodically and diaper changing is monitored periodically.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2026

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2026

Corrected on 8/25/2026
.17(8) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed staff and children engaged in appropriate had washing procedures.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **Met**

Comment
Documentation for medication dispensing observed completed on this date.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2026

Corrected on 8/25/2026
.21(3) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant reviewed center documentation and verified that the program conducted a tornado drill on June 3, 2026, and documented fire drills during the months of April, May, June, and July 2026.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR) **Met**

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2026

Corrected on 8/25/2026
.30(1)(a)3 -

Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed that the sheets covering the crib mattresses were properly fitted and secured

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 17 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 2 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 15 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that an employee and therapist were present at the center with an eligible satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter that had not been ported over to the center's DECAL Koala account.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2026

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR) **Met**

Comment
Evidence observed of 50% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 6/16/2026

Corrected on 8/25/2026
.31(2)(b)2. -Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant reviewed documentation verifying that Staff #5 and Staff #10 were enrolled in a program of study to obtain an approved educational credential.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) **Met**

Comment
Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2026

Corrected on 8/25/2026
.32(7) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed adequate supervision on this date.