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: 6/9/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 1:35 PM **Departure:** 6:05 PM

CCLC-96
Sikes Rockin Horse Ranch
1670 Atlanta Highway, NW Auburn, GA 30011 Barrow County
(770) 822-5683

Regional Consultant
Lynn Schnitzer
Phone: (770) 344-5683
Fax: Lynn Schnitzer
lynn.schnitzer@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
06/09/2026	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing
02/11/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
02/03/2026	Monitoring Visit	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
2	H L Pre K3Front-Guppies	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	13	C	25	C	NA	NA	Snack,Free Play
2	I : L Pre K4-Mid-Minnows	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	20	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
2	J: Rear-Sharks	Six Year Olds and Over	1	14	C	52	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
2	Lunchroom		0	0	C	30	C	NA	NA	
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 132			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Main	A: R Front-Cuddly		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main	B: R Mid-Puddle Duck		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main	C: Right Rear-Busy Bunnies	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap,Transitioning
Main	D: Mid-Rear-Cool Cats	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	14	C	24	C	33	C	Transitioning,Snack
Main	E: Library		0	0	C	18	C	26	C	
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 87			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 69		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 219			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG A:1 R-Infants	8	C
Main	PG B: 2R-Twos	10	C
Main	PG C: 3R-Two Yr	58	C

Main	PG D: Back R-Pre K	124	C
Main	PG E: Front Middle	41	C
Main	PG F: Front L-3 Yr	73	C
Main	PG G Left Back-School Age	439	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	**1 years**	**2 years**	**3 years**	**4 years**	**5 years (Prekonly)**	**5 years and older**
0	5	7	9	9	13	47

Comments
The visit was not closed on site. Consultant discussed the visit with Director, Jennifer Blevins. The report will be mailed to the center upon completion.

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.

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

Date: 6/9/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 1:35 PM **Departure:** 6:05 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study 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) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Met**

Comment
Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment
Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observation that the exhaust fans were not working the following classrooms:
-classroom Main F Left Middle restroom to the right of the sink.
-Building 2, H L Pre K3, and
Building 2, I L Pre K4

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2026

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) — **Not Met**

Comment
No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Finding
591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based on observation that there was a missing tile behind the left toilet in the right restroom in classroom Main G: Pre K2..

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2026

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(3) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that covers are placed over the exposed bolts on the toilets in the right restroom and the right toilet in the left restroom in classroom G: Pre K2.

Correction Deadline: 6/9/2026

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical — **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(14) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure to replace the burnt out bulb in the restroom in classroom Main Left Middle.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2026

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

Finding
591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that there were the following gaps in the fencing:
-A 6-inch gap under the double gate between PG D: Back R-Pre K and PG G Left Back-School Age,
-A 4-inch gap in the double gate between PG C: 3R-Two Yr and PG D: Back R-Pre K, and
-4-inch gap under the gate from the PG E: Front Middle and PG F: Front L-3 Yr.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 6/9/2026

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Corrected on 6/9/2026
.26(6) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the playground equipment to be in good repair.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition — **Met**

Comment
Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations — **Met**

Comment
Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Finding

591-1-1-.10(9) requires Center Staff to not use the area used for diapering for food preparation and to keep the diapering area clear of formulas, food, food utensils and food preparation items. It was determined based on observation bananas were stored on the diaper changing surface and center staff sprayed disinfectant in the area after checking a child's diaper in classroom Main C: Right Rear-Busy Bunnies.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Director will ensure that there is an area for food preparation and placement of food-related items.

Correction Deadline: 6/9/2026

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that children did not wash their hands after eating snack in classroom Building 2, H L Pre K3.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required hand washing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 6/9/2026

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

Correction Deadline: 2/4/2026

Corrected on 6/9/2026

.20(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the center to have written authorization from the child's physician or parent in order to dispense medication at the center.

Policies and Procedures

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

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices **Met**

Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **N/A**

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **Met**

Comment

Field trip documentation observed to be complete on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Met**

Comment
A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment
Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment
The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment
No children sleeping in cribs enrolled.

Correction Deadline: 2/3/2026

Corrected on 6/9/2026
.30(1)(b)1 - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the sleep mats to be in good repair.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 19	Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Staff # 3 — Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/31/2017

<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 7 — Not Met
Date of Hire: 11/07/2001

<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 14 — Not Met
Date of Hire: 02/11/2026

<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 15 — Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/10/2021

<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 18 — Not Met
Date of Hire: 02/02/2026

<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Met**

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment
Director provided four files for employees hired since last visit February 3, 2026.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR) **Not Met**

Comment
Complete first aid kits observed in center and on the vehicle on this date.

Finding
Previously Cited: 591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on review of records that staff #13, date of hire September 4, 2025, did not have evidence of current certification in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid on file.

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on review of records that staff #18, date of hire February 2, 2026, did not have evidence of certification in pediatric CPR and first aid on file. Staff #18 was to have completed CPR/first aid training by March 19, 2026.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Previously Cited: All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 6/26/2026

Recited on 6/9/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.33(1) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that new hires receive initial center orientation and that the orientation is documented.

Correction Deadline: 6/9/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: a)prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains:cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on review of records that the following staff did not have evidence of health and safety orientation training:
Staff #3, hire date August 3, 2017,
Staff #7, hire date November 7, 2021,
Staff #14, hire date February 11, 2026,
Staff #15, hire date August 10, 2021, and
Staff #18, hire date February 2, 2026.

Staff #3 and staff #15 had six hours of health and safety orientation training. The consultant documented that staff with the six hour training need to take the 10-hour training during the licensing visit conducted on March 7, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2026

Comment
Complete documentation of annual training observed on this date.

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

Comment
Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Comment
Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Comment
Adequate supervision observed on this date.