



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: 5/14/2026 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:30 AM Departure: 3:20 PM

CCLC-67654

Peerless Learning and Development Childcare Center
690 Thornton Way Lithia Springs, GA 30122 Douglas County
(770) 450-8755

Regional Consultant
Kara Williams
Phone: ()
Fax:
kara.williams@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
05/14/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/18/2025	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	

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 BUILDING	A: 2's		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
MAIN BUILDING	B: 1 1/2 - 2's	One Year Olds	5	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning
MAIN BUILDING	C: 6 Weeks - 12 Months	Infants	1	3	C	9	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks					
Total # Children this Date: 8			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
MAIN BUILDING	Playground	22	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	5	0	0	0	0	0

Comments

Discussed compliance with State rules and regulations to support ongoing health and safety of children in care.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



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: 5/14/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:30 AM **Departure:** 3:20 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(5) - Please ensure that each chair and table is the appropriate height for each child in the Main B: 1 1/2-2"s classroom.

Correction Deadline: 6/13/2026

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

N/A

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)

Not Met

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that in Main B: 1 1/2-2"s classroom a grey basket was left on a lower shelf near the cots with Aquaphor, empty plastic trash bags, and Johnson Johnson lotion with warning label "keep out of reach of children". Additionally, in Main A: 2"s a roll of white empty trash bags and a container of Lysol wipes were left on the bottom shelf of the grey changing table near the bathroom accessible to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(3) - Please ensure the route to the playground was clean, clear, and safe. Additionally, please ensure children were not exposed to any cigarette smoke or other substances when transitioning to the playground.

Correction Deadline: 6/13/2026

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on observation that in Main B:1 1/2-2's classroom one child had a brown pacifier attachment clipped to their shirt that presented a choking hazard. Additionally, in Main C: 6 Weeks-12 months classroom three infants had bibs attached around their necks while resting in swings when bibs are only to be worn during meal times.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

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

591-1-1-.10(1) - Discussed with the Director to ensure the proper ventilation is documented and provided for each diapering classroom.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that in Main B: 1 1/2-2's classroom Staff did not use or clean the strap on the fold-down Koala Kare changing table, when changing a child as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.17(7) - Discussed with the Director to ensure all children wash their hands with soap and warm water after toileting.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/18/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/09/2026

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/30/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.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.

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-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(1) - Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on a review of records that the Director did not have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage training on file as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 6/13/2026

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Finding

591-1-1-.31(11) requires the Center to have qualified and sufficient direct-care, clerical, housekeeping, maintenance and other employees to ensure full compliance with these rules without neglecting the supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that Staff left three infants unsupervised in Main C: 6 Weeks-12Months classroom for an undetermined amount of time to answer the front door for the Consultant.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that an adequate number of qualified employees is available to ensure full compliance with these rules without neglecting the supervision of the children.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

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**

A supervision plan was created on this date.