



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
3 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 7/24/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM
Study

CCLC-36782

Future Leaders Christian Academy Jonesboro

354 West Ave. Jonesboro, GA 30236 Clayton County
(770) 471-4515

Regional Consultant

Kayla Evans

Phone: (770) 296-7768

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kayla.evans@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Nadia Bernard

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
07/24/2026	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Support	
06/04/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/18/2025	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
Bldg. II	G-Downstairs		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Bldg. II	H-Gym	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	15	C	42	C	NA	NA	Centers
Bldg. II	I-Upstairs		0	0	C	28	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 96			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main	A-1L Infants	Infants	1	3	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning
Main	B-2L Toddlers	One Year Olds	1	5	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C-3L Toddlers	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D-1R Toddlers	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	31	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	F-Downstairs		0	0	C	53	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 137			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 38			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 233			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

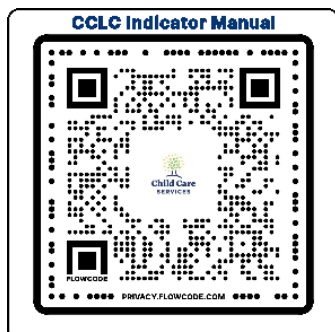
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Left-Toddler	40	C
Main	Middle Back	37	C
Main	Right	261	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	7	7	12	0	0	21

Comments

Staff Training Requirements were left with the Director.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 08/07/2026



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.dec.state.ga.us/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.dec.state.ga.us/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@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



Summary Report

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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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observations that the following equipment and furniture was not in good repair as required:

Room 1L

- Desk under refrigerator paint was chipped and had broken wood pieces.
- Cabinets and gate need to be cleaned and had chipped paint.
- Heavy dust on ceiling fan.

Room 2L

- Two Little Tikes Trucks were broken.
- Steeping stool had chipped paint.

Room 3L

- Chairs and tables were rusted and needed to be clean.
- Excessive dust on vents

Room 1R

- Heavy Dust on Ceiling Fans
- Play kitchen sink had broken faucets and missing the sink

Gym

- Vents full of dust
- Excessive spider webs and heavy dust in classroom corners
- Rust on chair legs and table legs
- Bathroom Frame had exposed wood and staples

All Bathroom exhaust contained heavy dust.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observations in the Gym that the foldable basketball arcade game and two televisions were not secured and posed as a tipping hazard.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

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 agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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****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 observations that the carpet in all classrooms and Gym were dirty and needed to be cleaned and free of stains.

Correction Deadline: 8/23/2026

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 the following hazards were accessible to children in Room D-1R in the children's cubby:

- Itch Relief spray
- Petroleum Jelly
- Children's Motrin

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

Recited on 7/24/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observations that live roaches and dead roaches were observed in the Gym.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

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 observations that the following safety hazards were observed on the Playgrounds:

Left Toddler Playground

- Excessive sticks and branches
- Chipped wood on Slide Equipment
- Exposed wood perimeter around the trees

-Middle Back Playground

- Exposed wood perimeter around slide equipment

Right Playground

- High Grass
 - Three swings had rusted chains
 - Concrete walkway had broken cement
- -----

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2026

Recited on 7/24/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(7) requires that climbing and swinging equipment be anchored. It was determined based on observations that the basketball goal post was not stable and posed as a tipping hazard.

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2026

Correction Deadline: 6/14/2026

Corrected on 7/24/2026

.26(8) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the resilient surfacing on the Playgrounds to have adequate amount as required.

Food Service

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

Not Met

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

Finding

591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks. It was determined based on observations that three feeding chairs were dirty with an adhesive residue and should be replaced and one feeding chair was chipped and cracked and not in good repair as required.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

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

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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 observations that a Staff member left a child unattended on the diaper changing table to gather supplies.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

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 observations that children in the Infant's classroom did not wash their hands after re-entering the classroom after outside play as required.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observations that Staff did not wash their hands after coming inside from outside play, before feeding a child, and before and after diapering as required.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Program observed complete emergency drills

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)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined based on observations that the mats in Room C were stored with the sheets touching each other and not separately as required.

Staff Records

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20;and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observations that a staff member left another staff member on the Playground with four 1-year-olds and seven 2-year-olds for a brief period of time.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.