



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: 9/24/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:30 AM **Departure:** 1:40 PM

CCLC-46297
The Children's Courtyard #3214
7460 McGinnis Ferry Road Suwanee, GA 30024 Forsyth County
(770) 418-1882

Regional Consultant
Francine Arnone
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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.
09/24/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/15/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/17/2025	Complaint Closure	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
First	LB		0	0	C	32	C	NA	NA	
First	Left-side RT		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	
First	LF	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	10	C	29	C	NA	NA	Outside
First	R2R		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
First	RB	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
First	RT FT	Infants	1	2	C	22	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			146		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Second	BkLF		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Second	BRT		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Second	Front LF		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Second	Middle LF		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			81		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 18			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 227		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
2	2	8	4	21	1	5

Comments

A copy of this report was provided on this date.

The Consultant discussed the following:

- Effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.
- Updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.
- Ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.
- Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.decgal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.
- All Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.
- Effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.
- A new Child Care Weather Watch Chart is available on the KOALA website. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.decgal.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@dec.al.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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

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

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2025

Corrected on 9/24/2025

.08(1) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Consultant observed that the child's file was complete on this date.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms Met

Correction Deadline: 6/14/2025

Corrected on 9/24/2025

.06(4) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Consultant observed that the vent in Room First RB to be in working condition.

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

Comment

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

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 observed to be accessible to children:

- First LF - there was a broom propped up against the wall next to the children's sink and a bottle of Dawn Dish washing soap on the right side of the children's sink counter.

-First RB - in the bathroom there were Lysol wipes, diaper rash cream, and baby wipes in a container on the floor of the bathroom.

-First LB - a toilet brush was on the floor next to the toilet in the bathroom marked boys.

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: 9/24/2025

Recited on 9/24/2025

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

Met

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)

Not Met

Comment

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

Correction Deadline: 5/20/2025

Corrected on 9/24/2025

.36(4)(a) - This citation was corrected. The Consultant reviewed the records of an annual inspection conducted on July 29, 2025.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1. requires that the first check be conducted immediately upon unloading the last child at any location including, but not limited to, a field trip destination, arrival at the Center, and the last stop during transportation to home or school. The responsible person on the vehicle shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; sign the passenger transportation checklist (s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle; and give the passenger transportation checklist(s) to the second designated Staff person. It was determined based on review of records that on September 5, 2025 the bus returning from Burnette Elementary did not have a first check signature when returning to the Center at 3:40 PM as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on review of the records that the bus returning to the Center from Shakerag Elementary School did not have a signature for a second designated Staff person that conducted a second check of the bus upon its return to the Center on September 8 at 3:50 PM, September 9 at 3:50 PM and September 10 at 3:50 PM, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

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 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/14/2025

Corrected on 9/24/2025

.33(5) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Consultant observed all staff is within the first year of employment at the Center 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.

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

Corrected on 9/24/2025

.07(2) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Center Director advised the Consultant that the Center notifies Parents immediately when a child is experiencing discomfort of any kind.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

Corrected on 9/24/2025

.32(7) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Consultant observed staff providing direct supervision at all times on this date.