



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: 10/28/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:45 AM **Departure:** 2:40 PM

CCLC-51765

Cedars Preschool at Mt. Zion

7665 Mt. Zion Blvd. Jonesboro, GA 30236 Clayton County
 (770) 477-7850

Regional Consultant

Kayla Evans

Phone: (678) 222-4758

Fax:

kayla.evans@decal.ga.gov

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.
10/28/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/12/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	
07/16/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	
			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	Rm A: 1L - Infants		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Rm B : 1R -Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Floor Play
Main	Rm C : 2L - 1 yr olds	One Year Olds	1	6	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Rm D : 3L-Toddlers	One Year Olds	2	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rm E: 4L-3 yr olds	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Story
Main	Rm F: 5L - School age	Three Year Olds	2	9	C	26	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Story
Main	Rm G: 6L-School age		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Rm H: 6R-4 yr olds	GA PreK	2	19	C	20	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	Rm I: 5R -4 yr olds	Four Year Olds	1	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	Rm J:4R - 3-4 yr old	Three Year Olds	2	17	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rm K: 3R- 3yr olds	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Story
Main	Rm L:2R - 2-3yr olds	Two Year Olds	2	16	C	25	C	NA	NA	Music
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 222					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 109					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Infants	16	C
Main	B - School age	99	C

Main	C - Preschool	32	C
Main	D - Two year olds	27	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	20	28	30	30	1	42

Comments

Playground Best Practices Sheet and 12/15 Passenger Van Fact Sheet was left with the Director.

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!



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

Summary Report

Date: 10/28/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:45 AM **Departure:** 2:40 PM

CCLC-51765

Cedars Preschool at Mt. Zion

7665 Mt. Zion Blvd. Jonesboro, GA 30236 Clayton County
(770) 477-7850

Regional Consultant

Kayla Evans

Phone: (678) 222-4758

Fax:

kayla.evans@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

Comment

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2025

.03(8) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There was direct and attentive supervision observed on this date.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2025

.03(9) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There was adequate supervision and the playground was under construction on this date.

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

Comment

591-1-1-.06(4) - Please ensure that exhaust fans in the bathrooms are free of dust as required.

Correction Deadline: 11/27/2025

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****Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

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

Playgrounds were deferred until the next visit. All playgrounds were under construction. Construction workers were on site and the permit for septic tank repairs was observed.

Correction Deadline: 11/27/2025

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)****Met****Comment**

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

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

591-1-1-.17(7)(a) requires washcloth handwashing be used only for infants when the infant is too heavy to hold or cannot stand safely and for children with special needs; requires that an individual washcloth be used only once for each child before laundering. It was determined based on observations that staff failed to wash an Infants hands after diapering in Room B: 1R-Intants.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on how to correctly use washcloth handwashing and will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 10/28/2025

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(2)(r) - New - : Discussed 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. Also discussed to 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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 11/2/2025

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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 for Van Tag #TCH7021 and Tag #TFR1231.

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**

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.

Comment

Director provided 14 files for employees hired since last visit.

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

Complete first aid kits observed in center on this date.

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: 12/31/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2025

.33(5) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All employees had (10) ten hours of diverse training on file as required.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed. on this date.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2025

.31(2)(b)2. - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were academic requirements on file for all Lead Teachers.

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**

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