



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: 6/17/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:20 AM **Departure:** 1:10 PM

CCLC-16513
Foundation Academy
120 Commerce Parkway Cornelia, GA 30531 Habersham County
(706) 894-1529

Admin Services Manager
LaKeyshia Tucker
Phone: (678) 920-4715
Fax:
lakeyshia.tucker@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
06/17/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/23/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/10/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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
Building 2	1L GA Pre K	Four Year Olds	1	10	C	33	C	NA	NA	Centers
Building 2	1R 3-year Preschool	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Building 2	2L GA Pre K	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	3	11	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Building 2	2R 3-year old Preschool	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	13	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Outside, Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 105					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 309					
Main	A-1L 2 year olds	Infants	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play
Main	B-2L Pre-K	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	12	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C-3L Pre-K	Six Year Olds and Over	1	8	C	25	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D-4L 3 year olds	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E-1R S/A	Infants and One Year Olds	2	10	C	23	C	32	C	Feeding, Nap, Floor Play
Main	F-2R front		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers, Free Play
Main	G-2R back		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	H-3R Infants	One Year Olds	1	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	I-3R back 1 year olds	One Year Olds	2	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	J- 4R front	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	17	NC	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	K-4R 2 years	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 204					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 309					

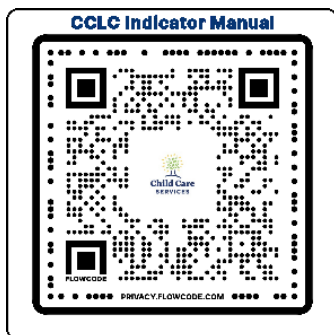
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A-Infants	17	C
Main	Playground B - 3's and 4's	27	C
Main	Playground C - School Age	97	C
Main	Playground D - School Age	27	C
Main	Playground E - 2's	28	C
Main	Playground F - 1's	29	C
Main	Playground G - 3's and 4's	34	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
18	25	31	29	39	0	78

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a licensing study.

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.dec.al.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!



Summary Report

Date: 6/17/2026 VisitType: Licensing Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

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

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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) Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(14) - Please ensure that the rooms are properly lit, during nap time staff should be able to see the children throughout the entire classroom. .

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2026

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

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Food Service

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

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**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Met****Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

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

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met**

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Corrected on 6/17/2026

.29(1) - Correction of previous citation. Center staff are aware of the proper protocols required to report incidents to the Department.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Corrected on 6/17/2026

.11(2) - Correction of previous citation, appropriate discipline techniques were observed throughout the center on the day of the visit.

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

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**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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 7 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles on this date.

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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.