



**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:** 1/29/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

**CCLC-55279**

**iCare @ EAV**

428 Flat Shoals Ave. SE Atlanta, GA 30316 DeKalb County  
(404) 240-3684

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01/29/2026                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/28/2025                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 01/14/2025                  | 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          |
|----------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|----------|------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|----------------|
| Main     | L1-A Infants       |                                   | 0     | 0        | C    | 5          | C            | NA         | NA           |                |
| Main     | L2-B Infants       | Infants                           | 2     | 6        | C    | 6          | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play,Nap |
| Main     | L3-C Two-year old  | One Year Olds                     | 2     | 5        | C    | 8          | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play      |
| Main     | L4-D Toddler       |                                   | 0     | 0        | C    | 7          | C            | NA         | NA           |                |
| Main     | R1- F Three, Fours | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds | 1     | 5        | C    | 8          | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning  |
| Main     | R2-E Toddler 1     | Two Year Olds                     | 1     | 6        | C    | 7          | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning  |

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 41

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 22

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 41

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground | 27                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 9                 | 9       | 7       | 5       | 0       | 0                  | 0                 |

### **Comments**

On this date, Jessica Johnson (JJ), Consultant, reviewed the visit report with Owner Lauren Davis.

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.

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#### 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](http://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.

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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@decgal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decgal.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 Licensing Study:

#### Activities and Equipment

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**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)**

**Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

#### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Name of Release Person Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that the name of release person, parent work number, and emergency contact information was missing from Child # 5's record.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/5/2026**

**Facility****591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(4) - Please ensure that the second restroom in the hallway window is propped open. Discussed that a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases.

**Correction Deadline: 2/28/2026**

**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)****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(13) - Discussed taping down the hanging Alexia cord near the sink area.

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2026**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - Discussed repairing the small area of chipping paint near the family tree and removing the staples from the wall classroom R1-F.

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2026**

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure to cover the 3 and a half inch gap on the bottom of the back fence on the left side.

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2026**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that there were two protruding nails on the bottom of the fence on the left side.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026**

**Recited on 1/29/2026**

**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 observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground:

- Chipping paint on the green tunnel, green bus, green climbing dome, and green seesaw.
- Rust was observed on blue cart and both blue basketball goals.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) - Discussed removing the rake from the deck area.

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2026**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025**

**Corrected on 1/29/2026**

.07(5) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as no hazards were observed.

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

**Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Organization**

**591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.16(f) - Discussed completing an Amendment to modify the changes in classroom L1-A and L2-B and L3-C and L4D.

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2026**

## Policies and Procedures

### 591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.27 - Please ensure to post the names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence to the posted items board.

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2026**

## Safety

### 591-1-1-.05 Animals

Not Evaluated

#### 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)

Not Evaluated

#### Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

### 591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Not Evaluated

#### Comment

Per the Owner, the 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.

**Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025**

**Corrected on 1/29/2026**

.30(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as no hazards were observed.

## Staff Records

**Records Reviewed: 8**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/02/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/14/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

### 591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2)(d) requires the Center Director must have current evidence of successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid at all times. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 7 hired on August 14, 2025, did not complete the complete biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training within the first 45 days of employment as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center Director must successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid taught by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Director will send copies via email of verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion.

**Correction Deadline: 2/28/2026**

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(2)(a)-(n) - Please ensure that Staff documentation orientation forms are completed for Staff # 6 and Staff # 8.

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 7 hired on August 14, 2025, did not complete the complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

**Correction Deadline: 2/28/2026**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(4) - Please ensure that Staff with primary responsibility for food preparation complete the four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage within the first year of hire.

**Correction Deadline: 2/28/2026**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 7 hired on August 14, 2025, did not complete the 10 clock hours of diverse training for the 2025 calendar year as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2026**

**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(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # hired on January 2, 2024, did not have the minimum academic requirements for the lead teacher position as of this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2026**

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

**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.