



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: 11/24/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:40 AM **Departure:** 6:00 PM

CCLC-3966

Noah's Ark Christian Learning Center

3220 Battlefield Pkwy. Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742 Catoosa County
(706) 866-9864

Lead Consultant

Dianne Clarke

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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.
11/24/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/19/2025	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/17/2025	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	A-202	One Year Olds	2	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Free Play, TV
Main	B-203	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	5	C	9	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	C-204	One Year Olds	1	8	C	9	C	NA	NA	Nap, Art, Lunch
Main	D-205	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Art, Nap, Lunch
Main	E-210	Three Year Olds	2	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside, Nap
Main	F-213	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	7	C	20	C	28	C	Free Play
Main	G-214	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap, Outside
Main	H-215	One Year Olds	2	4	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap, Circle Time, Story
Main	I-216		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	J-217	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	6	C	10	C	15	C	Free Play, Diapering
Main	K-218-219	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	20	C	29	C	Nap, Outside
Main	L-227	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	29	C	TV, Lunch
Main	M-229	Four Year Olds	1	8	C	20	C	29	C	Art, Centers
Main	N-232	Infants	2	6	C	9	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Nap, Feeding
Main	O-234	Infants	2	2	C	9	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	P-235		0	0	C	9	C	12	C	Not In Use
Main	Q-236-237	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	15	C	33	C	46	C	TV, Centers

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 241		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 297
Total # Children this Date: 109	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 241	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 297

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground (3-12 Yrs)	62	C
Main	Playground-Infant	32	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
13	23	26	32	33	0	23

Comments

Be sure to enter all temporary closures by 7 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, inclement weather, holidays etc...) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily because you are not caring for children for one or more days. SAVE the report before exiting.

All amendments are required to be electronically submitted in DECAL KOALA.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

Please ensure that the director and staff responsible for food preparation completes the four (4) hours of nutrition training as soon as possible but within the first year of employment. (if applicable)

Please remember that the transportation training certificates must be completed prior to participating in transportation and renewed every two years for anyone checking the vehicle, chaperoning on a trip, and signing the checklist, including the director. Please ensure that directors complete the transportation training upon being hired at the center. Please ensure to contact your consultant for guidance if you have not been conducting transportation before you plan to conduct transportation in the future. (if applicable)

****There is a free Transportation Training available on OLLI in Georgia PDS (GaPDS). Health and Safety Orientation Training 15-hour course is available free online in OLLI (staff must successfully complete all three trainings to meet licensing requirements). PLEASE NOTE: If the Health & Safety Orientation Training date is outside of the previous 12 months, the training was not approved for 10 credit hours, or the training certificate is not documented in the employee's GaPDS account, the Staff person will be required to take this training again, within their first 90 days of employment at a new facility. Reminder: Health and Safety Orientation Training can only be taken once every five years.**

Talk about updated orientation checklist.

Indicator manual and utilizing it.

Updated Transportation forms including sample as of October 1, 2023, use immediately (if applicable).

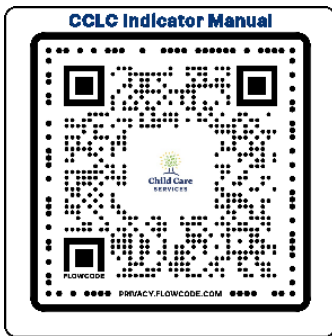
Discussed regarding ensuring to complete rechecks for Criminal Records checks at least 90 days before the five-year expiration. Suggestion: Check monthly or sooner to ensure that staff's criminal records checks are not expiring.

Don't forget to post a new license annually.

Discussed regarding nap mats regarding not using tape to repair; must replace (if applicable).

Recent Changes/Updates: Core Rule: CPR and First Aid will be due within 45 days. 2 hours of Language and Literacy/2 hours of Health and Safety training annually beginning July 1, 2025, a required for all staff. Also, SUID (Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome formerly SIDS) must be included on the orientation checklist along with abusive head trauma. ****Please don't forget to add to your childcare policies and procedures concerning expulsion, suspension, and practices followed to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma.**

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.dec.al.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure that equipment is in good repair and able to be cleaned at all times in all classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 11/24/2025

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

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)

Not Met

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 in the classrooms:

-A-202: Hand sanitizer and Desitin were observed to be accessible in a child's bag.

-C-204: Insect repellent and packages of wipes were observed to be accessible in a child's bag.

-D-205: Desitin, antibacterial ointment, Vaseline and sunscreen were observed to be accessible in children's bags. Also, diaper creams and Vaseline were observed to be accessible on a changing table shelf.

-F-213: Sanitizer spray was observed to be accessible in a child's bag.

-G-214: Several packages of wipes were observed on a shelf and accessible.

-L-227: A plunger and Swiffer were accessible near the children's handwashing sink.

-Q-236-237: Two hand sanitizers, petroleum jelly, Aquaphor, three sunscreens, package of wipes, and insect repellent were accessible in children's bags. In an unlocked cabinet to the right, two bottles of peroxide were observed to be accessible. The third cabinet in the counter area was observed to be unlocked and there were balloons accessible. Also, the first cabinet was observed to be unlocked and two bottles of bleach, Flex disinfectant wipes, plastic grocery bags, Borax, Odo Ban, glass cleaner and hand soap were accessible.

Further, in the clear storage drawer near the phone area, a can of Wizard air freshener, empty tape dispenser with a sharp edge, two staplers, and adult scissors were accessible.

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: 11/24/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - Please ensure that all outlets are covered at all times, including near the cribs and in the gymnasium used by the children.

Correction Deadline: 11/24/2025

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

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that there was three and a half inches of mulch on the sides of the blue straight and curvy slide where six inches were needed on the preschool playground. Also, there was less than one inch of mulch beneath the yellow and tan steps area where three were needed on the preschool playground. There was three and a half inches of mulch near the rock climbing wall where six inches were needed on the preschool playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2025

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the A-202, B-203 and C-204 diaper changing pads were observed to be torn.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 12/1/2025

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 Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(5) requires that medicines no which are no longer to be dispensed shall be returned to the child's Parent(s) immediately. It was determined based on observation that medication was observed in children's bags in the following classrooms:

-A-202: Gas relief and soothing tablets were found in a child's bag and was accessible.

-K-218-219: Cortizone 10 cream was observed to be accessible in a child's bag.

-L-227: Two bottles of Midol was found in a bag in the cubbie area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on a system for tracking the use of medications and returning them to Parent(s).

Correction Deadline: 11/24/2025

Safety

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. requires that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions. It was determined based on observation that the seat belts in row three and four were observed to be twisted and three car seats were observed to be expired in vehicle tag number LTE 4887. In vehicle SBT 2439, the first row seat belt buckle was observed to be broken, three seat belts were twisted, one car seat was expired and one did not have a sticker with a date. Also, vehicle tag number PB777, two car seats were observed to be expired, there were two broken seat belt buckles in the fourth row and one seat belt was not retracting in the fourth row to the right.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that manufacturer directions and state and federal laws are met when using child passenger restraining systems and seat safety belts.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) - Please ensure that all required information is completed on the children's medical emergency forms who are being transported.

Correction Deadline: 11/25/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that the driver did not record when all children exited the vehicle from Westside Elementary School on November 14, 2025 and November 21, 2025, three children from Cloudsprings Elementary on November 14, 2025 and one child on November 21, 2025, and all children from Battlefield Primary on November 14, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 11/25/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the date and time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that the driver did not record when they returned to the center on November 14, 2025, from Cloudsprings Elementary.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that each date and time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 11/25/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

-Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10-year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the childcare industry.

-Please ensure that all staff, volunteers, independent contractors, substitutes, therapists, etc...has their records check electronically ported to the center's list in KOALA before being present at the facility.

-Please ensure that records checks are redone if there is a six-month (180 calendar days) break in service from the childcare industry.

-Please also ensure that satisfactory records checks are updated before the expiration date.

-Ensure that all therapists and other independent contractors have an updated records check on file, before being present at the center or home or ensure that the individual is supervised at all times by a staff member who has a comprehensive records check if they do not have a records check on file.

-Please ensure that staff with a national background check is always present with a staff member who has a comprehensive background check. Staff should never be by themselves.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Met****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)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that Staff in Rooms A-202, B-203, C-204 and D-205 were observed to not be seated at arm's length from children during mealtime.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 11/24/2025