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: 9/2/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-17259
Big Apple Learning Center
514 N. Franklin Street Dublin, GA 31021 Laurens County
(478) 272-5472

Process & QI Unit Consultant
Stacy Igarashi
Phone: (470) 532-0983
Fax:
stacy.igarashi@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Rosalyn Elder

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
09/02/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
01/20/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/23/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

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.

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
One	A-Front left	One Year Olds	1	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
One	B- Back left	Infants	2	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
One	C-Back right	Two Year Olds	2	19	C	25	C	NA	NA	Free Play
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 52			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Two	D- Building Two		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Two	E-Building Two Left	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	36	C	NA	NA	Art
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 58			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 46		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 110			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
One	Infant-Toddler	14	C
Two	Infants	7	C
Two	School age	169	C

Enrolled Children

Infant (0-12 months)	Toddler (1-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care)	School Age (before/after care only)	GA PreK only	Summer Only
8	31	24	5	0	0

Comments
Discussed food sizes and supervision during meal times to prevent choking.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

CCLC Indicator Manual

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.

Compliance at a Glance

For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: https://families.decal.ga.gov.

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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

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Summary Report

Date: 9/2/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Comment
Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Technical Assistance**

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.12(5) - Discussed with Director to ensure the tables and chairs in C-back right (two-year-olds) classroom were the appropriate sized for the children.

Correction Deadline: 10/2/2026

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

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**

Comment
The Center appeared clean and well maintained 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 accessible to children:
-C-back right (2-year-olds): one staff purse and one small fan was stored on a low desk
-E-building 2 left (3-year-olds): one pair of adult scissors and two empty plastic bags were stored on a low shelf under the teachers desk, two packs of baby wipes, one pack of baby wipes and a broken door handle was stored in a low, unlocked rainbow drawer one bottle of hand sanitizer and one plastic wrapper was stored in children's backpacks in low cubbies.

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: 9/2/2026

Recited on 9/2/2026

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(3) - Discussed with Director to monitor, repaint or repair the following areas:
-A -Front Left (one-year-olds) : chipping paint had begun to develop on the wall by the Science Center
-C-Back Right (two-year-olds) : chipping paint had begun to develop on the wall by the door
-D-Building Two (afterschool) : one black table - the vinyl surface had begun to peel
-E- Building Two (three-year-olds) : chipping paint had begun to develop on the wall in the circle time area and on the wall in girls bathroom

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2026

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Technical Assistance**

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.26(4) - Discussed with Director to monitor the fencing on playground 2 (schoolage) to ensure there were no gaps at the bottom and all poles were attached to the fencing.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Director stated ant beds were treated the morning of the visit, evidence of treatment was observed.

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2026

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.26(9) - Discussed with Director to monitor playgrounds for active ant beds and the porch rails leading to playground 2 (schoolage) where chipping paint had begun to develop. Also discussed that the wire on the exterior wall, in the area that lead to playground one (infant/toddler) was secured to the wall where it had become loose.

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2026

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Not Met**

Comment
Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

Comment
Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

Finding
591-1-1-.15(2)(f) requires that food for infants or children less than one (1) year of age be cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller and food for toddlers shall be cut into pieces one-half inch or smaller to prevent choking. It was determined based on observation that the food served was not cut appropriately to prevent choking in A-Front Left (one-year-olds) and C- Back right (two-year-olds) when children were served half a slice of bread, half a slice of cheese, and one slice of lunch meat and the food items were not cut into one-quarter inch pieces for one-year-olds and one-half inch pieces for two-year-olds.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that food for infants and children less than one (1) year of age is cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller and food for toddlers is cut into pieces one-half inch or smaller to prevent choking.

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2026

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.18(5) - Discussed with Director to ensure all refrigerators and freezers have thermometers to monitor the temperature. Also discussed with Director to ensure all food / drink items are dated/labeled after opened.

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2026

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2026

Corrected on 9/2/2026
.10(9) - Previous citation was observed corrected. There were no formulas, food, food utensils, food preparation items nor a lunch box on the diaper changing table.

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

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 - Discussed with Director to monitor crib mattresses to ensure they were fitted tightly in the cribs without any gaps between the mattress and crib bars.

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2026

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2026

Corrected on 9/2/2026
.30(1)(a)3 - Previous citation was observed corrected. There were no soiled crib sheets in the infant room (Building One - A front left classroom). Furthermore, staff stated that sheets are washed daily.

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.30(1)(b)2 - Discussed with Director to ensure the cots in E-Building Two Left (three-year-olds) were labeled for individual use with the child's name or a number system with chart. Also discussed that the cots needed to be covered and not stacked too high, to prevent being accessible to children and a tipping hazard.

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2026

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

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

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2026

Corrected on 9/2/2026
.14(2)(b) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Each classroom was observed to have at least one staff member with evidence of current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid trainining.

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
Adequate supervision observed on this date.

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 did not provide adequate supervision during mealtimes, in A-Front Left (one-year-olds) and C-Back right (two-year-olds) when staff stood and walked around the classrooms while children were eating lunch, rather than seated within arms reach of the children.

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: 9/2/2026