



**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:** 1/9/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:40 AM **Departure:** 11:45 AM

**CCLC-54841**  
**Learning Tree Academy**  
1940 Old Hwy 5 Blue Ridge, GA 30513 Fannin County  
(706) 633-8198

Regional Consultant  
Megan OMary  
Phone: (706) 451-0920  
Fax: (706) 451-0819  
megan.omary@decal.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. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01/09/2026                  | Licensing Study                   | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 03/13/2025                  | Complaint Investigation Follow Up | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 03/13/2025                  | Complaint Closure                 | 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 Building                  | Room A-Toddler   | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds    | 1                           | 5        | C                             | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | TV          |
| Main Building                  | Room B-Preschool | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds  | 1                           | 9        | C                             | 24         | C            | NA         | NA           | Story       |
| Main Building                  | Room C-Preschool | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 1                           | 12       | NC                            | 10         | NC           | NA         | NA           | Circle Time |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:    |                  |                                    | 48                          |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |             |
| Total # Children this Date: 26 |                  |                                    | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |             |

| Building      | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|---------------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main Building | Preschool  | 24                   | C                     |
| Main Building | Toddler    | 14                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 0                 | 9       | 13      | 15      | 7       | 0                  | 0                 |

**Comments**

Findings of this report were reviewed with the Director.

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!**



## 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**

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

**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)**

N/A

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility****591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**

Not Met

**Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that the license capacity of Room C-Preschool was exceeded, as the room was approved for 10 children and 12 were present.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

**Correction Deadline:** 1/9/2026

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(13) - Please ensure that adult scissors in Room C-Preschool are kept inaccessible to children.

**Correction Deadline:** 1/9/2026

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

Met

**Comment**

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

**Health and Hygiene**

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|                                                        |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
|  | <b>Safety</b> |
|--|---------------|

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

|  |                                         |
|--|-----------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|--|-----------------------------------------|

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|                                                               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
|  | <b>Staff Records</b> |
|--|----------------------|

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|                            |                                                      |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Records Reviewed: 6</b> | <b>Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3</b> |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Staff # 3 | Not Met |
|-----------|---------|

Date of Hire: 09/16/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Staff # 5 | Not Met |
|-----------|---------|

Date of Hire: 07/01/2008

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Staff # 6 | Not Met |
|-----------|---------|

Date of Hire: 09/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

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|                                                                             |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on a review of records Staff #3, with a start date of September 16, 2025, and Staff #6, with a start date of September 10, 2025, did not have documentation of current first aid and CPR training.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

**Correction Deadline: 2/8/2026**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on a review of records Staff in Room A- Toddler and Room C-Preschool did not have documentation of current First Aid and CPR certification.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present.

**Correction Deadline: 1/9/2026**

**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.