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: 8/3/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 12:10 PM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

CCLC-51677
Rocking Horse Childcare Center
40 A Harold Ragan Drive Blakely, GA 39823 Early County
(229) 723-6498

Regional Consultant
Angela Williams-Jackson
Phone: (404) 710-3984
Fax:
angela.williams-jackson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
08/03/2026	Licensing Study	Deficient
04/09/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/21/2025	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
Main	E:1L	Four Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	TV
Main	Room A		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room B	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	Room C	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room D	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	7	C	26	C	NA	NA	Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 88				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 25		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 88				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A (Infant)	13	C
Main	Playground B (Toddler)	12	C
Main	Playground C (3 - 12 yrs)	38	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

Comments
The center fell into deficient and was left with a Plan of Improvement that is due on August 17,2026. The center will need an office conference and TA.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 08/17/2026

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

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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) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Child # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities,.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers,.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Not Met**

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 three out of five children's records were missing allergies, two out of five were missing the physician information, and two out of five were missing the emergency contact information as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

Recited on 8/3/2026

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.06(7) requires Center Staff to ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that the two toilets in Room D were with debris on the back of the toilet bowl posing a sanitation hazard.

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2026

Recited on 8/3/2026

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

Comment
Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by the center on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR) **Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2026

Corrected on 8/3/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no hazards accessible to children on this date.

Finding
591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that in Room A there were two ceiling tiles over the cubby on the right side of the room with stains. Additionally in the bathroom of Room D the toilet on the far left had a broken seat with a screw protruding out that posed an injury hazard.

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following posed a strangulation and electrocution hazard:
Room E: 1L
- There were three loose cords and two loose charger cords hanging down under the television.
- On the right side of the back of the room there were four black loose cords hanging from the wall.
Room A
- There were two electrical outlets without protective caps on the right side wall.
Room B
- There was one electrical outlet without protective caps on the right wall near the thermostat.
Room C
- There was an electrical outlet without a protective cap on the right wall near the bathroom.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

Recited on 8/3/2026

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

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 on playground A there was one wood plank missing on the front fence, two wood planks missing on the left fence, and one wood plank broken on the back fence all posing an entrapment hazard. Additionally, on playground C the wire on the fence was loose and the fence measured 3 feet on the back right corner posing an escape hazard.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2026

Recited on 8/3/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the following were accessible to children on the playground posing a safety hazard:
Playground A
- Weeds and vines growing up the back fence.
- Over grown grass throughout.

Playground B
- Over grown grass throughout.
- A metal rake leaning against the wall of the back of the building.
- A broken blue container, and white cone near the back door of Room C.
- A broken gray metal pole with rust near the back door of Room C.

Playground C
- Over grown grass throughout.

Correction Deadline: 8/5/2026

Recited on 8/3/2026

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Met**

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2026

Corrected on 8/3/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All food in the refrigerator was properly stored.

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**

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2026

Corrected on 8/3/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no children observed to have a runny noses.

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

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense or administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

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

Correction Deadline: 4/14/2026

Corrected on 8/3/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All drills were current and documented.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **N/A**

Comment
Center does not keep animals on the premises.

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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) **Met**

Comment
Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 6 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2026

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/09/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/04/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/12/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

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

Comment
Director provided one file for employees hired since the last visit.

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

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 that Staff #1 was present in Room E: 1L without having evidence of current pediatric first aid and CPR training obtained within the first 45 days of employment as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2026

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 observation that in Room B, Room C, and Room E: 1L did not have evidence of on Staff present in the room with current first aid and CPR training on file as required. Additionally. Staff #3, #4, and #6 did not have evidence of current first aid and CPR training on file.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Met**

Comment
Documentation observed of required staff training.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on observation that lead teachers, Staff #1, #3, #4, #6, and #7 in Room B, C, D, and E: 1L did not have evidence of educational credentials as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2026

Recited on 8/3/2026

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.