



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: 3/10/2026 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM Departure: 1:45 PM

CCLC-50784

Baby Cakes Learning Academy LLC

2138 Lumpkin Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
(706) 955-9301

Regional Consultant

April Christian

Phone: ()

Fax:

april.christian@decal.ga.gov

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.
03/10/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/11/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/14/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
			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	A	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	21	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B	One Year Olds	1	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	C		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E	Three Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	8	C	24	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	F		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	G		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	H		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	Not In Use

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 172

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 20

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 172

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	217	C
Main	B	21	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	6	7	7	0	0	12

Comments

The findings on this report were reviewed with the Director on this date.

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

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

Date: 3/10/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Please ensure lesson plans are posted and reflect the current weeks activities in each classroom.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.06(6) - Please ensure bathrooms are properly supplied with toilet paper, soap and paper towels.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2026

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)

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(11) - Please ensure the bathroom floor is smooth, clean to prevent cross contamination and a tripping hazard.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2026

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 potential hazards were present on this day:

Main A (Infants)

- An adult stapler was on left side of the teacher table.
- A green bottle of hand sanitizer was on the left of the teacher table.
- A pack of Always My Baby wipes was on the changing table.
- A tube of Balmex diaper cream was on the changing table.

Main B (One Year Old):

- A bottle of hand sanitizer was on the changing table.
- A pack of Pampers and Always my baby wipes was on the changing table.
- An orange extension cord was hanging on the right of the back table.

Main E (Three Year Old Room):

- A black staff purse was in a chair on the right of the sink.
- A bottle of Lysol disinfectant spray was on the handwashing sink.
- A green and a white extension cord was in the bottom left cubby.

Bathroom (Left)

- Three out of six toilets had protruding screws protruding from the base.

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: 4/10/2026

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

591-1-1-.26(6) - Please ensure the outdoor equipment on Main A and Main B playground are free of mildew.

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2026

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 the following hazards are present on this date:

Main A:

- Active ant beds throughout the left front, middle and back of the playground.
- Branches through the front, middle and back of playground causing sharp edges.
- Five wooden planks on the front right with exposed protruding nails causing sharp edges.
- There were exposed tree roots on the left middle causing tripping hazards.

Main B:

- There were branches throughout the front and middle causing sharp edges.
- Active ant beds throughout the left front and middle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2026

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****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.

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

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing on this date.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Consultant discussed proper hand washing requirements for diapering with the director and staff on this date.

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that a child in Main- E did not wash hands upon arrival to classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 4/10/2026

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/10/2026

.30(1)(a)3 - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The sheets in Main A Infants were tight-fitted as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/10/2026

.30(2)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The infants in Main A were sleeping in cribs upon the arrival of the Consultant as required.

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/05/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/01/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined on review of records that Staff #5 with a hire date of November 1, 2024 did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site prior to being present at the site.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will watch videos to ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will watch videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on review of records that Staff #5 with a hire date of November 1, 2024 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while children were present for care on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will watch videos to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will watch videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/10/2026**Recited on 3/10/2026**

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 4 with a hire date of February 5, 2025 did not have the most recently issued determination letter ported electronically prior to being present at the center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will watch videos to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will watch video to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 3/11/2026

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)	Met
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Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)	Met
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Correction Deadline: 2/11/2026

Corrected on 3/10/2026

.14(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The staff all have current and valid evidence of the successful completion in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment as required.

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

Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)	Met
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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
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Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)	Met
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Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.