



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: 2/10/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:45 AM **Departure:** 12:10 PM

CCLC-62716
DBA / The Westside School
1243 Allene Avenue, SW Atlanta, GA 30310 Fulton County
(404) 576-1314

Regional Consultant
Brandi Mangino
Phone: (478) 314-9726
Fax: (478) 599-0169
brandi.mangino@dec.al.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. 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.
02/10/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/19/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/16/2024	ILS with Final License Date	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	Room A	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	Room B	Infants	2	8	NC	8	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Room C	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Circle Time
Main	Room D	GA PreK	1	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Room E	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding
Main	Room F	One Year Olds	2	9	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room G	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room H	Infants	2	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Clean Up, Feeding

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 116

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 74

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 116

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Concrete	9	C
Main	Large	41	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
13	23	24	16	14	5	0

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Consultant labeled rooms by names in report and the floor plans were not matching up to to Room letters.

The updated weather chart was emailed to the center on this date. The center was updated on the new policy requirements and will have the new policy in hte parent handbook and signed by all parents by February 24, 2026.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.

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!



Summary Report

Date: 2/10/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:45 AM **Departure:** 12:10 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.03(2) - Citation observed to be corrected. All lesson plans were posted and current.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.03(6) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.03(8) - Citation corrected. Staff discussed rule with director to ensure staff are promptly comforting children.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.03(9) - Citation corrected. Age-appropriate activities were observed.

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.12(2) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that the following equipment posed a tipping or falling hazard:

Chicks Classroom (Infant Room)- unsecured crock pot

Caterpillar Classroom (Infant/One-year-old)- unsecured crock pot on the refrigerator

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026

Recited on 2/10/2026

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records**Records Reviewed: 5****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that all enrollment applications have listed if the child had any allergies or special conditions.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026**Facility****591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Correction Deadline: 6/18/2025****Corrected on 2/10/2026****.06(4) - Citation observed to be corrected.****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)**Met****Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026**Corrected on 2/10/2026****.25(13) - Citation corrected.****591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed that bolts on fencing should not be anymore than two threads. In addition, the gate leading to the small playground area needs to be secured at the bottom.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026**Food Service****591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Correction Deadline: 5/20/2025****Corrected on 2/10/2026****.15(2) - Citation corrected. All infant plans observed were current.****Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025****Corrected on 2/10/2026****.15(3) - Citation corrected.**

Finding

591-1-1-.15(7) requires that food be served according to manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability. It was determined based on the center menu the following items were being served:

raw carrots

turkey meatballs

mixed berries (contained blueberries)

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor food served and accessible to children to ensure that the food does not present a choking hazard.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.18(8) requires that containers of food be stored above the floor on clean surfaces protected from splash and other contamination. Containers for food storage other than the original container or package in which the food was obtained shall be impervious and non-absorbent, have tight-fitting lids or covers and labeled as to contents. It was determined based on observation that can vegetables, tropical fruit and cereal were stored on the kitchen floor.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will designate an appropriate area for the storage of containers of food, will make available containers, lids, and covers, and will train Staff on proper storage and labeling.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on observation that an infant (awake) was placed in the crib with an attached bib.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.10(4) - Citation observed to be corrected.

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

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment

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

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.17(7) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

- Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.

Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at:

<https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 2/15/2026

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)

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed that when mats are stored they need to be done so in a manner where the sheets do not touch.

Correction Deadline: 2/20/2026

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.30(1)(a)3 - Citation observed to be corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on observation that mats throughout had exposed foam and were in need of repair.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate the size and weight of the child and mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and is at least two inches thick.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2026

Recited on 2/10/2026

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026
.30(2)(c) - Citation observed to be corrected.
Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026

Corrected on 2/10/2026
.30(4) - Citation corrected. Please ensure that cots/mats are fully when in the classroom to prevent climbing.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 21

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 11

Staff # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/22/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 6 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/12/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/22/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 8 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/03/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 9 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/24/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 12 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 14 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 17 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/02/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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-.33 Staff Training Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.33(2)(a)-(n) requires the initial Center orientation to include the following subjects: a) the Center's policies and procedures; b) the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; c) the Staff person's assigned duties and responsibilities; d) reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; e) communicable diseases and serious injuries; f) emergency weather plans; g) the program's emergency preparedness plan; h) childhood injury control; i) the administration of medicine; j) reducing the risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID), which includes Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); k) hand washing; l) fire safety; m) water safety; and n) prevention of HIV/AIDS and blood borne pathogens. It was determined based on a review of records that staff members #1, 8, 9, and 14 did not have orientation on file. It was further determined that the student-in-training #15 did not have orientation on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide orientation in all missing subjects to the employee(s) and will take steps to provide a complete orientation to new Employees in the future.

Correction Deadline: 2/11/2026

Correction Deadline: 6/18/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.33(3)(a)-(k) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on a review of records that the Director did not have food service training on file for viewing.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2026

Recited on 2/10/2026

Finding

Previously Cited: 91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that staff members #1, #4, #5, #9, #12, #14, #17, #18, #2, #25 and #29 did not have 10 clock hours of training on file as required.

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of records that staff members # 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, and 17 did not have the full 10 hours of annual training for the 2025 year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Previously Cited: The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2026

Recited on 2/10/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. requires the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #1 and #14 did not have the required language and literacy training for the 2025 year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year to include a least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2026

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.31(1)(a) - Citation corrected.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Corrected on 2/10/2026

.32(4) - Citation observed to be corrected. Proper ratios were observed.

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 in Room C 2-year-old children were observed to be eating breakfast and staff were not seated within arms length.

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: 2/10/2026

Recited on 2/10/2026