



**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:** 7/21/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 3:30 PM

**CCLC-38278**

**Childcare Network #254**

106 Westside Blvd Pooler, GA 31322 Chatham County  
 (706) 256-5475 cni254@childcarenetwork.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Stacy Igarashi

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Joint with: Jennifer Johnson

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★ ★

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                   |               | <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. |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 07/21/2025                         | Licensing Study   | Deficient     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 06/02/2025                         | POI Follow Up     | Deficient     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 05/02/2025                         | Complaint Closure | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                    |                   |               | <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.                                                                                                                       |
|                                    |                   |               | <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.                                                                                                                                 |
|                                    |                   |               | <b>Deficient</b> - 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                |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Building II                     | L1(Young Toddlers)  |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 13         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |
| Building II                     | L2(Infant 3)        |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |
| Building II                     | L3(Three year olds) |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |
| Building II                     | L4(Three year olds) |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |
| Building II                     | L5(Pre-K)           | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 1                             | 18       | NC   | 24         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers              |
| Building II                     | R1(Infant 1)        | Infants and One Year Olds                             | 2                             | 12       | C    | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           | Feeding,Nap          |
| Building II                     | R2(Infant 2)        |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play,Diapering |
| Building II                     | R3(Toddlers1)       | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds                       | 2                             | 17       | C    | 13         | NC           | NA         | NA           | Floor Play,Diapering |
| Building II                     | R4(Toddlers 2)      |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |
| Building II                     | R5(Afterschool)     | Six Year Olds and Over                                | 1                             | 14       | C    | 25         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers              |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 172 |                     |                                                       | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                      |
| Main                            | A                   |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 12         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |
| Main                            | B                   |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |
| Main                            | C                   |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 10         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |
| Main                            | D                   | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds                    | 1                             | 18       | NC   | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers              |
| Main                            | E                   | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds                     | 1                             | 14       | C    | 34         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play,Centers   |
| Main                            | F                   |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |
| Main                            | G                   |                                                       | 0                             | 0        | C    | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           |                      |

|                                 |   |  |   |   |                               |    |   |    |    |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|---|-------------------------------|----|---|----|----|--|
| Main                            | H |  | 0 | 0 | C                             | 15 | C | NA | NA |  |
| Main                            | I |  | 0 | 0 | C                             | 15 | C | NA | NA |  |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 166 |   |  |   |   | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |    |   |    |    |  |
| Total # Children this Date: 93  |   |  |   |   | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |    |   |    |    |  |

| Building    | Playground                  | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Building II | Big Playground (Preschool)  | 147                  | C                     |
| Building II | Little Playground (Toddler) | 25                   | C                     |
| Main        | A                           | 12                   | C                     |
| Main        | B                           | 28                   | C                     |
| Main        | C                           | 35                   | C                     |
| Main        | D                           | 27                   | C                     |
| Main        | E                           | 68                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 8                 | 8       | 26      | 18      | 15      | 0                  | 36                |

#### Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and follow up on previous rule violations.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 08/04/2025

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a LS:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(13) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure all classrooms have a schedule posted and followed each day.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on observation and staff discussion that up to date lesson plans were not in use or posted for all classrooms in use.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(6) - Consultant discussed with staff and Director to ensure children are not seated in high chairs without an activity being provided or for extended amounts of time while waiting for meals.

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**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.03(7) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure all classrooms have time outdoors daily, depending upon the weather watch chart.

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**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

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

**Comment**

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.12(2) - Consultant discussed with Director to repair or remove the desk in classroom R5 where the drawer has exposed nails and doll house where the painted interior has worn away.

**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.12(4) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure chairs are not stacked in classrooms or bathrooms when children are present.

**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**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 authorizations obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**Facility**

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

**Met**

**Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.19(1) - Consultant discussed with Director to monitor classrooms capacity numbers to ensure licensed capacity is maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

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

591-1-1-.25(13) - Consultant discussed with Director and staff to ensure closets remain locked and staplers and large tape dispensers are not accessible to children.

**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**Prior Visits: 04/25/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - Consultant discussed with Director to monitor and ensure vents in all classrooms and bathrooms are cleaned regularly to prevent dust accumulation. Also discussed with Director to ensure all classroom sinks warm water has adequate water pressure for handwashing.

**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute under the tire swing on the 4L playground.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - Consultant discussed with Director to monitor the gates on all Playgrounds so they are closed and secured tightly without a gap measuring more than three and a half inches. Also discussed to monitor and repair or replace the fencing pole on 3L playground where it has become detached and resecure. Please ensure all PVC pipes used on the fencing are capped and securely fastened without gaps measuring more than three and a half inches. Discussed to ensure any poles on the gates that have been cut are capped.

**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure the plastic panels on the back 2L toddler playground are cleaned to remove the plant matter growing and residue. Also discussed to ensure the equipment is reassembled on the 3L playground and repair the wooden stage area where two boards are becoming detached.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

Prior Visits: 03/20/2023

**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 an observation that there following hazards were observed on the playgrounds:

- seven window screens with holes present on playgrounds 2L, 3L and 4L
- two hoses were observed present on playground 5L
- two gutters were observed detached with sharp edges on playgrounds 4L and the front playground
- one wasp nest was observed on playground 4L
- one active ant bed was observed on playground 5L
- two deflated pools/slip and slides were observed on playground 2L
- used paper cups were observed on the ground on playground 3L
- weeds and tall grass were observed growing on all playgrounds and through the fencing
- three exposed roots were observed by the paint station on playground 4L

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2025

Prior Visits: 03/20/2023

**Food Service**

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

Technical Assistance

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(2) - Consultant discussed with Director and staff to ensure infant feeding plans are updated regularly; updating every three months is best practice.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(3) - Consultant discussed with Director and staff to ensure all infant bottles are labeled and the nipples are capped or covered with a plastic bag.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(5) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure menu changes are posted.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025

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

Met

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

Met

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

**Comment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(7) - Consultant discussed with Director and staff to ensure children who can hold their heads up wash their hands at the sink after diapering, rather than with a baby wipe.

**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

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

Not Evaluated

**Comment**

The Provider stated no medication has been dispense/administered in the past month.

**Policies and Procedures**

## 591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies &amp; Procedures

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(1)(a-o) - 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/RuleAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>

**Correction Deadline: 7/26/2025**

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

**Safety**

## 591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

**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-.36 Transportation(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation currently.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

## 591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)

Technical Assistance

**Comment**

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure crib sheets are not too tight, causing the mattress to curl up. Also discussed to remove the cot sheets observed on the cribs in the infant classroom R2 that is currently not in use.

**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**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 five file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 8/20/2025**

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(2)(a)-(n) - Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

**Correction Deadline: 7/22/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. - New - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

**Correction Deadline: 8/20/2025**

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

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

**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)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that ratios were not maintained in the following classrooms:

-classroom D (building one), one staff member was observed present with 18 children : 10 three-year-olds and eight four-year-olds

-classroom C (building one), one staff member was observed present with 14 children : 12 two-year-olds and six three-year-olds

-classroom R6 (building two), one staff member was observed present with 22 children: one three-year-old, seven four-year-olds, 12 five-year-olds and three six-year-olds

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**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**Prior Visits: 03/20/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32(4)(b) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure parent permission is on file when two-year-olds and three-year-olds are housed together.  
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**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32(7) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure supervision is maintained when moving children from classroom to classroom. Please ensure children do not walk/run ahead of staff into classrooms or areas of the center without direct supervision.  
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**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**Prior Visits: 11/13/2023**

**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 maintain supervision during meal times or sit within arm's length in the R1 classroom when infant/toddlers were observed eating in high chairs and staff were observed to be walking around serving and at the counter cutting up food and in classroom R3 when 1-year-old and 2-year-old children were observed eating at the table and two staff members were observed to be standing up and walking around the classroom.  
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**Correction Deadline: 7/21/2025**

**Prior Visits: 11/13/2023**