



**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:** 2/24/2026 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

**CCLC-65847**

**Collins Head Start**

1321 Swannee Quintet Blvd Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County  
(678) 708-9914

Special Investigations Unit Specialist

Stephanie Ellis

Phone: (470) 442-4722

Fax: (470) 226-2710

stephanie.ellis@dec.al.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. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/24/2026                  | Incident Investigation & Follow Up        | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02/06/2026                  | Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 09/30/2025                  | Incident Investigation 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     | A: 114 | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2     | 14       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning |
| Main     | B: 116 | Three Year Olds                    | 2     | 12       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time   |
| Main     | C: 118 | Three Year Olds                    | 2     | 15       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time   |
| Main     | D: 115 | Three Year Olds                    | 2     | 16       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers       |
| Main     | E: 113 | Three Year Olds                    | 2     | 15       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers       |
| Main     | F: 111 | Three Year Olds                    | 2     | 13       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Music         |
| Main     | G: 107 | Four Year Olds                     | 3     | 11       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers       |
| Main     | H: 105 | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2     | 12       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers       |
| Main     | I: 103 |                                    | 0     | 0        | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use    |
| Main     | J: 101 | Three Year Olds                    | 2     | 11       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers       |
| Main     | K: 102 | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 3     | 14       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play     |
| Main     | L: 104 | GA PreK                            | 2     | 11       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers       |
| Main     | M: 106 | Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds  | 2     | 11       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time   |
| Main     | N: 108 |                                    | 0     | 0        | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use    |

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 294

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 155

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 294

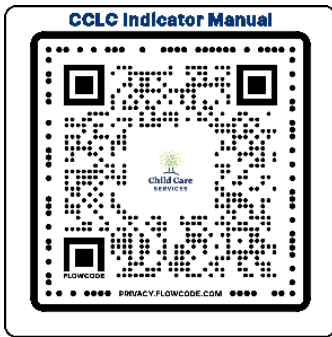
Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground | 256                  | C                     |

## Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct an incident investigation and follow up visit.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed



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>.

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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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!**



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### Summary Report

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Same

The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation & Follow Up:

### Staff Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Corrected on 2/24/2026

.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant reviewed records indicating that both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site were submitted for Staff #11.

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Corrected on 2/24/2026

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Staff #11 had a a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file with an expiration date of 2/6/2031.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Corrected on 2/24/2026

.14(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant reviewed staff records showing completion of pediatric first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation on this date.