



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: 9/18/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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

CCLC-37885
Childcare Network #250
 4689 Hardy McManus Road Evans, GA 30809 Columbia County
 (706) 364-4216

Regional Consultant
 Christina Jennings
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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.
09/18/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/08/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
06/24/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	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/1L	Infants	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Floor Play,Nap
Main	B/2L	Infants	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	C/3L	One Year Olds	3	12	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D/4L	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transiti oning
Main	E/5R	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	F/4R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	G/3R/Pre-K 1	GA PreK	2	19	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H/2R/Pre-K 2	GA PreK	2	17	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I/1R	Four Year Olds	1	11	C	27	C	NA	NA	Music
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 175			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 107		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 175			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG- Infant (Front)	10	C
Main	PG- Preschool (Left)	84	C
Main	PG- School Age (Right)	72	C
Main	PG- Twos (Left Front)	68	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
15	15	15	22	48	0	8

Comments

The Consultant and Provider discussed the report and best practices.

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@decgal.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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the following hazardous conditions were observed:

Classroom C 3/L:

- The vinyl was peeling on a blue child sized chair that was located by the back door leading to the playground.

Classroom D 4L:

- The vinyl was peeling on a blue child sized chair that was located on the right side of the classroom.

Classroom E/5R:

- The red tray under the chalk board on the children's art easel was cracked causing sharp edges to be exposed.

Classroom F/4R:

- The vinyl was peeling on a blue child sized chair and blue child sized couch that was located on the front right side of the classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2025

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

Finding

591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observation that the exhaust fans were not properly functioning in the children's bathroom that connected Classroom E/5R and Classroom F/4R. It was further determined that the exhaust fans were not properly functioning in the children's bathroom that connected Classroom G/3R and Classroom H/2R.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 10/18/2025

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****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 the following was observed:

Classroom B/2L:

- There was chipping paint on the baseboards that surrounded the classroom.

Classroom C/3L:

- There was chipping paint on the baseboards that surrounded the classroom.
- There was a small circular hole in the wall causing exposed sheet rock on the left side of the classroom above the wooden children's play stove.
- The children's handwashing sink was not properly functioning and did not have running water on the right side of the classroom.

Classroom D/4L:

- There was chipping paint on the baseboards that surrounded the classroom.
- The white trim along the bottom of four out of four windows was cracked causing sharp exposed edges and accessible to children on the back wall of the classroom.

Classroom E/5R

- There was chipping paint on the baseboards that surrounded the classroom.

Classroom F/4R

- There was chipping paint on the baseboards that surrounded the classroom.

Classroom G/3R

- There was chipping paint on the baseboards that surrounded the classroom.

Classroom I/1R:

- There was chipping paint on the baseboards that surrounded the classroom.
- There was a large hole on the front side of the boy's bathroom door.
- The bottom of the toilet paper dispenser cracked causing sharp exposed edges in the boy's bathroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Recited on 9/18/2025

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 upon observation that the following fencing hazards were present:

PG - Two's (Left Front):

- There was a five inch gap between the gate doors on the left side of the playground.
- There were two out of two bolts protruding over two threads on the gate doors on the left side of the playground.

PG- School Age (Right):

- There was a disconnected post cap on the top rail of the fencing on the left side of the playground.
- The bottom of the fencing was not properly secured causing a seven inch gap on the backside of the playground.
- The entrance doors were not properly secured causing a four inch gap between the gate's doors on the front side of the playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Recited on 9/18/2025

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 playground hazards were observed on this date:

PG - Infant (Front):

- The outdoor carpeting was peeling causing a potential tripping hazard on the base of the cement platform where the children's toys were located.

PG - Preschool (Left):

- The back left corner of the black barrier that was surrounding the children's swings was not properly connected causing a potential tripping hazard.
- The PVC pipe along the gate was not properly connected and was missing an end cap between each PVC pipe.

PG – School Age (Right)

- Two large bolts were protruding from the right side of the black barrier surrounding the play structure.

PG - Two's (Left Front):

- The PVC pipe along the gate was not properly connected and was missing an end cap between each PVC pipe.

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: 9/30/2025

Recited on 9/18/2025

Food Service

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 observation that there was a bag of whole sized grapes in an opened zip lock bag that was located in a child's cubby and accessible to children in Classroom I/1R.

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: 9/18/2025

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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 2-year-old child did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after diapering in Classroom D/4L as required. It was further determined that a 1-year-old child did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after diapering in Classroom C/3 as required.

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: 9/18/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that a staff member did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after diapering a 2-year-old child in Classroom D/4L as required. It was further determined that a staff member did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after diapering a 1-year-old child in Classroom C/3L as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 9/18/2025

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Met**

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

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 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

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

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**

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.