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: 1/21/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 10:50 AM

CCLC-35740
The Learning Center
1518 Huie Road Lake City, GA 30260 Clayton County
(770) 960-1999

Regional Consultant
Nadia Bernard
Phone: (404) 670-9398
Fax: (706) 434-7710
nadia.bernard@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
01/21/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
08/06/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/09/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

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	Rm. A- Infants	Infants	1	5	C	19	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	Rm. B- Afterschool		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm. C: 18mth - 2yrs	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Diapering,Centers
Main	Rm. D	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 76			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 19		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 76			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Infants - 1yrs	6	C
Main	B-2 TO 3yrs	54	C

Enrolled Children

Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	5	6	7	11	0	31

Comments
Resources were left with the director on this date.

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.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

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@decal.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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2025

Corrected on 1/21/2026
.12(2) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. Rooms A, C, and D walls were repainted.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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 items need attention:
Room A- The exhaust fan was dusty and needed to be cleaned.
Room C- The exhaust fan was dusty and needed to be cleaned.
Room D- The exhaust fan in the bathroom was dusty and needed to be cleaned.

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: 1/30/2026

Recited on 1/21/2026

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

Finding
591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that Playground A and B had 2 inches of resilient surface around fall zones when 6 inch of resilient surface was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026

Recited on 1/21/2026

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 that Playground A and B had exposed tree roots causing a potential tripping hazard.

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. Please spray paint exposed roots.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026

Recited on 1/21/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Proper diapering procedures observed.

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2025

Corrected on 1/21/2026
.10(5) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed appropriate diapering procedures in Room C.

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

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2025

Corrected on 1/21/2026
.17(7) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed proper handwashing in Room C.

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
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on a review of documents that Vehicle # RFM5498 did not have a current up to date vehicle annual safety check.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026

Recited on 1/21/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that on Vehicle # RFM5498 had a torn seat cover on the front row passenger side seat.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026

Recited on 1/21/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(c) requires that each vehicle be equipped with a fire extinguisher maintained in working order and kept inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the fire extinguisher on Vehicle # RFM5498 was not in good repair when it read " recharge" on the gauge.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The center will ensure that each vehicle has a working fire extinguisher and that the fire extinguisher is kept out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026

Recited on 1/21/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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.

Staff Records

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

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2025

Corrected on 1/21/2026
.09(1)(c) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed current satisfactory comprehensive records checks for all staff.

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2025

Corrected on 1/21/2026
.09(1)(l)3. - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. Staff # 8 had a current and valid Comprehensive Records Check Determination.

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-.24 Personnel Records **Met**

Correction Deadline: 8/11/2025

Corrected on 1/21/2026
.24(1) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed current documentation of orientation for Staff #1 and Staff # 5.

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

Correction Deadline: 9/5/2025

Corrected on 1/21/2026
.33(4) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed four clock hours of training in food nutrition for the cook.

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

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Corrected on 1/21/2026
.31(2)(b)2. - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed Professional Learning Plans for the lead teachers in Rooms A. C, and D.

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.