



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: 9/9/2026

VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:40 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-48715

The Friends School of Atlanta

862 S. Columbia Drive Decatur, GA 30030 DeKalb County
(404) 373-8746

Regional Consultant

Maryn Accord

Phone: (470) 990-0305

Fax:

maryn.accord@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
09/09/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/21/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/28/2025	Licensing Study	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 - 3 year olds		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 10			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 0			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 10							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

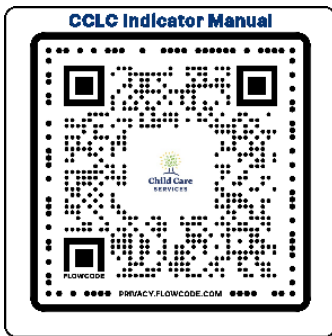
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - 3 year olds	14	C

Enrolled Children					
Infant (0-12 months)	Toddler (1-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care)	School Age (before/after care only)	GA PreK only	Summer Only
0	0	0	0	0	0

Comments

Staff Records were reviewed. Core Rules and Non-Core Rules were evaluated.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



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.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.



For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: <https://families.dec.al.ga.gov>.

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.al.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!



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Summary Report

Date: 9/9/2026 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 8:40 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records Not Evaluated

Comment

No children were currently enrolled on this date.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR) Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by the Center on this date. There were no children enrolled on this date.

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

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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 on observation that the fencing material on the playground did not measure 4 feet in height as required. The measurements for each side of the fencing material were as follows:

- Front side: 3 feet, 7.5 inches in height.
- Right side: 3 feet, 8 inches in height.
- Back side: 3 feet, 7 inches in height.
- Left side: 3 feet, 6 inches in height.

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: 10/9/2026

Recited on 9/9/2026

Technical Assistance

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. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure overgrowth of vegetation on the playground area was regularly maintained to prevent potential hazards, as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2026

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

There were no children enrolled in the program on this date.

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

Met

Comment

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the Director on this date.

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

There were no children enrolled on this date. The Center's discipline policy was reviewed on this date. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Director on this date.

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)**

Met

Comment

No children were enrolled during this visit. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the Director on this date.

Staff Records

Staff # 1	Not Met
Date of Hire: 02/10/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 2	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 3	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/12/2024	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.24(1)-No Record,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 4	Not Met
Date of Hire: 12/04/2024	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.24(1)-No Record,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing	
Staff # 5	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 6	Not Met
Date of Hire: 12/12/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing	
Staff # 7	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

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) **Not Met**
Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined, based on a review of records, that Staff #4, hired December 4, 2024, did not obtain pediatric CPR and pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(b) requires the training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. It was determined, based on a review of records, that Staff #6, hired December 12, 2025, attended an online-only CPR training in pediatric CPR and pediatric first-aid and did not complete a hands-on skill assessment of the training, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff must successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid taught by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Director will send copies via email of verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2026

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that all required information and required documentation was included in personnel files and were available for review, as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that Center orientation was provided and kept on file for all Employees prior to assignment to children or task, as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined, based on a review of records, that the following Staff did not have evidence of completing health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment, as required:

- Staff #1, hired February 10, 2025
- Staff #3, hired August 12, 2024

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2026

Finding

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 #3, hired August 12, 2024, did not attend ten clock hours of diverse annual training for the 2025 calendar year, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

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

Met

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must have a qualifying credential on file, or enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper ratios and classroom capacities were discussed with the Director.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/21/2026

Corrected on 9/9/2026

.32(7) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that no children were enrolled on this date. The Consultant discussed with the Director direct and watchful oversight of children at all times. The Consultant further discussed with the Director that a supervision plan related to bathroom times was kept on file as best practice.