



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: 1/20/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:20 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-1901

Bright Beginnings Early Development Center
101 Wes-Park Drive Perry, GA 31069 Houston County
(478) 988-4177

Regional Consultant
Charlene Story
Phone: (770) 405-7942
Fax: (770) 408-0759
charlene.story@decal.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.
01/20/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/16/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/06/2025	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	One Year Olds	1	7	C	7	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	B	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	9	C	9	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	9	C	9	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap
Main	E	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	21	C	23	C	32	C	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			61		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 70					
Total # Children this Date: 55			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 70					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Left	34	C
Main	Right	88	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
7	13	13	13	15	0	17

Comments

Staff records, children's enrollment, emergency drills, emergency preparedness plan, and other required items were available for the consultant to view.

An exit conference discussing the licensing study report was conducted with the Director on this date. An email with the licensing study report attached was sent to the Director for signature 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.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-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured on this date.

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 agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center on this date.

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

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Food Service

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

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3

Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk

5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk

2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

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.

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

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

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.16(f) requires the Center to submit an application for an amended License at least 30 days prior to a change if there is a change in the name of the program or Center, changes in the ages of the children to be served, an increase in the regular hours of operation such that the Center would be providing evening or night-time care in addition to day-time care, changes in the services provided, or additions to or changes in the use of the building by the licensed Center. If an emergency situation arises which makes it impossible to give thirty (30) days' notice, the management of the Center shall notify the Department by telephone and shall submit an application for an amended License as soon as management becomes aware of the change that will be necessitated by the emergency situation. In no case, however, shall a new owner operate the Center without first securing a new License or Permit from the Department. It was determined based on observation that the provider had added a wall to Classroom D making an additional classroom and had not submitted an amendment as required by the department.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

An application for amendment and all necessary documentation will be submitted.

Correction Deadline: 2/3/2026

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

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-.13 Field Trips(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Van with tag #CPY4840 was inspected on this date and found to be in good condition and all seat belts were in working order,

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2025

Corrected on 1/20/2026

.36(4)(b) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. There were no stains present on the seats and the floor was observed to be cleaned on this date.

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****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)	Met
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Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles on this date.

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-.33 Staff Training	Not Met
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Correction Deadline: 10/16/2025

Corrected on 1/20/2026

.33(3)(a)-(k) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All staff that were hired since September 16, 2025 were observed to have completed Health and Safety training within the 90 days of hire. In addition, staff that were missing Health and Safety training at the previous visit had completed the Health and Safety training.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. requires the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices. It was determined based on review of staff records that staff members #1, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9 and #10 who were employed during 2025 were missing the required two hours of evidence based language and literacy training that is a requirement of the department.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year to include a least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.