



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: 10/28/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:15 AM **Departure:** 12:10 PM

CCLC-35606

Childcare Network #224

4719 Warm Springs Rd. Columbus, GA 31909 Muscogee County
(706) 563-0829

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@decal.ga.gov

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.
10/28/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/20/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/24/2024	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
Bldg. I	Back Left	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	22	C	NA	NA	Story
Bldg. I	Back Left Middle	One Year Olds	1	5	C	11	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Bldg. I	Back Middle Right	Infants	2	9	C	15	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Floor Play,Nap
Bldg. I	Front Left	GA PreK	2	18	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers,Art
Bldg. I	Right Back	One Year Olds	1	5	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Bldg. I	Right Front	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Bldg. II	Back Left	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	30	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Bldg. II	Front Left	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 47					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 76			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 155			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bldg. I	Main	49	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
10	14	21	27	19	1	38

Comments

October 28, 2025--Technical Assistance provided for new rule changes. The Staff Training rule was met.

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.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

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Swimming activities provided off site.

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)

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2025

Corrected on 10/28/2025

The previous citations were observed corrected on this date. The splintered door was repaired, the vents were free from dust, the hole in the bathroom wall was repaired, and the vanity was repaired,

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/19/2025

Corrected on 10/28/2025

The previous citation was corrected. The Consultant discussed with the Director to continue pulling resilient surface from under equipment and ensure the required amount of surface was present in fall zones.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2025

Corrected on 10/28/2025

The previous citation was observed corrected. Each infant had a signed infant feeding plan. The Consultant discussed with the Director and Staff to review each form for completion.

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

Please ensure soiled items are stored inaccessible to children.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **Met**

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.

Correction Deadline: 11/2/2025

Technical Assistance

Discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at:

<https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 11/2/2025

Safety

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Correction Deadline: 3/21/2025

Corrected on 10/28/2025

The previous citation was corrected. All safety belts had required components.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed. A seven week old infant was observed asleep on their back in their crib 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-.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**

Discussed that all lead staff must 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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.