



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: 7/14/2026 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 1:25 PM Departure: 4:15 PM

CCLC-14421

New Era Learning Center

4640 Hiram Lithia Springs Road Powder Springs, GA 30127 Cobb

County

(770) 943-9055

Regional Consultant

Kaiyah Werts

Phone: (404) 615-2155

Fax:

kaiyah.werts@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 07/14/2026                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02/26/2026                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 07/17/2025                  | 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 1st Left  | Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over | 1     | 14       | C    | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap,Story     |
| Main     | B 2nd Left  | Infants                                   | 1     | 4        | C    | 13         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap,Free Play |
| Main     | C 3rd Left  | Six Year Olds and Over                    | 1     | 7        | C    | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play     |
| Main     | D 3rd Right |                                           | 0     | 0        | C    | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           |               |
| Main     | E 2nd Right | Four Year Olds                            | 1     | 15       | C    | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap           |
| Main     | F 1st Right | Two Year Olds                             | 1     | 8        | C    | 19         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play,Nap |

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 107

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 48

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 107

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

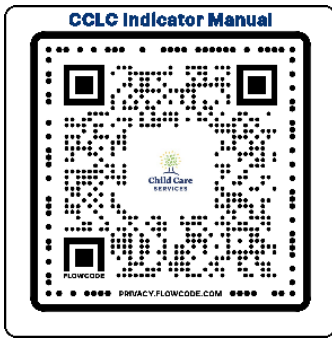
| Building | Playground                | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | infant Toddler Playground | 11                   | C                     |
| Main     | School Age Playground     | 33                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 6                 | 8       | 11      | 15      | 47      | 0                  | 27                |

### Comments

Consultant reviewed the visit report and addressed any questions and concerns. Consultant also completed measurements for an additional building on this date.

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.state.ga.us/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.

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.state.ga.us/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.

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### 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](http://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.

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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](mailto: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 Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

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, as applicable.

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

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 routinely met by center on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**Comment**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., brooms, plungers) out of reach of children.

**Comment**

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - Discussed with the Director to ensure that the sink in room A 1st Left was secured to the wall and not loose.

**Correction Deadline: 7/14/2026**

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

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

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

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are completed and updated regularly leaving no unanswered questions.

**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>

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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appeared clean and well organized on this date.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Proper hand washing stated throughout the center on this date.

**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 a staff statement that baby wipes were used to wash the infant hands until the age of 1-year-old.

**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: 7/14/2026**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Organization****591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.16(f) - Discussed with the Director to ensure that an amendment was submitted before additional space was used to ensure the proper square footage was included on the license for the playground.

**Correction Deadline: 7/14/2026**

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

Met

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

**Safety****591-1-1-.05 Animals**

N/A

**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)**

Not Evaluated

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Not Evaluated

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

**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.

**Comment**

Director provided one file for employees hired since last visit.

**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-.33 Staff Training**

Met

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed. on this date.

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.