



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: 2/17/2026 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 12:25 PM **Departure:** 3:45 PM

CCLC-33470

Pride and Joy Daycare Learning Academy II

814 Hampton Road McDonough, GA 30253 Henry County
 (770) 320-9898

Special Investigations Unit Specialist

Brittany Cook

Phone: (706) 434-4412

Fax: (706) 434-7708

brittany.cook@dec.al.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.
02/17/2026	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
11/04/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/21/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	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 lft	Three Year Olds	1	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B - 2nd lft	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap,Free Play
Main	C go thru rm. D		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D 3rd lft	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	E 4th lft	One Year Olds	1	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	F 1st rt	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch
Main	G 2nd rt	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	17	C	29	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	H 3rd rt	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	I far back		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	J lft back	Six Year Olds and Over	1	25	C	27	C	NA	NA	Nap

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 169

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 97

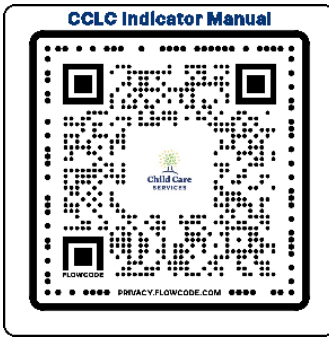
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 169

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A Infants/Toddlers	23	C
Main	B 3+ Back of bldg	107	C

Comments

February 17, 2026- The investigation was not concluded on this date. The follow up visit report was reviewed with the Shere Cooper, another Site Director and Latasha Dix, Owner.



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.decal.ga.gov/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.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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 Incident Investigation & Follow Up:

Safety

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2025

Corrected on 2/17/2026

.36(7)(c)1 - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant reviewed the passenger transportation checklist records for the weeks of February 2, 2026, and February 9, 2026, and they were correct.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/17/2026

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on review of records that Staff #8 had not submitted a Records Check Application to the Department and to an authorized fingerprinting site. Staff #8 was the only staff present in the Main 8 4th lft classroom and supervised eight 1-year-old children during nap time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will have all staff, including substitutes complete a CRC application prior to being hired to ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will check CRC records monthly to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #8 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while children were present for care. Staff #8 was the only staff present in the Main 8 4th lft classroom and supervised eight 1-year-old children during nap time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure every staff, including substitutes have a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will review CRC records electronically every month to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

Staffing and Supervision

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(7) - Please ensure children are supervised at all times, including when they enter the classroom from the playground to use the restroom.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026