



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: 1/28/2026 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 12:10 PM Departure: 1:10 PM

CCLC-28448

Discovery Point #59

10136 Carlin Drive Covington, GA 30014 Newton County
(770) 787-9199

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

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Mailing Address

10136 Carlin Drive
Covington, GA 30014-3603

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.
01/28/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/27/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
10/16/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
			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.

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/1L Infants	Infants	2	9	C	21	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding
Main	B/2L Beginners	One Year Olds	2	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Floor Play
Main	C /3L Toddlers	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D/ Cafe/ Activity		0	0	C	38	C	54	C	Not In Use
Main	E/ 1R Preschool	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	23	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	F/ 2R	Three Year Olds	2	21	C	27	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Story
Main	G/ 3R Preschool 3	Three Year Olds	2	19	C	24	C	NA	NA	Story, Floor Play
Main	H/ 4 R	GA PreK	2	17	C	27	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	I/ 5R School Age		0	0	C	36	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 232					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 86					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A Infants/ Toddlers	27	C
Main	B School Age	84	C
Main	C	66	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
33	16	28	38	26	6	46

Comments

2-19-26 The report was not left at the center due to computer issues. The consultant reviewed the report with the Director on 2-19-2026.

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.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@decal.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-.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

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(2)-Immunization

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.08(2) requires Center Staff to maintain a file for each child that includes evidence of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunizations for each child enrolled in the center on a form approved by the Department, and to allow no child to continue enrollment in the Center for more than thirty (30) days without such evidence. It was determined based on a review of records there was no current evidence of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunizations for child #4.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will have and use a plan to track immunization forms for all enrolled children and to ensure the form or affidavit are obtained from the parent or guardian within 30 days of enrollment. Parents will be informed their child cannot remain enrolled in the center without this documentation.

Correction Deadline: 2/7/2026

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) **Met**

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2025

Corrected on 1/28/2026

.26(6) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The Consultant did not observe rust on the handle bars of tricycles on Playground C or on the climbing ladder on the large play structure on Playground B.

Defer

591-1-1-.26(8)-The resilient surface was frozen and could not be measured on the day of the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The consultant discussed with the the director that the playground is required 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. Please ensure that any exposed concrete on Playground C are covered or removed to prevent tripping hazards. Based on statement the playground is currently not in use.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Food Service

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

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

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**

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2025

Corrected on 1/28/2026

.10(4) - Previous citation corrected in that based on observation diapering pad was removed in classroom E.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Policies and Procedures

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(2)(r) - New - 591-1-1-.21(1)(r) The consultant discussed with the director to ensure that the Center policies and procedures include 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.

Correction Deadline: 2/2/2026

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

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

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2025

Corrected on 1/28/2026

Previous citation corrected.

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Defer****Defer**

591-1-1-.13(2)-This rule was not evaluated during this visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center Staff will have and use a system to obtain written field trip permission in advance and ensure the permission is signed and dated by the responsible person.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2025

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Correction Deadline: 10/26/2025

Corrected on 1/28/2026

.36(3)(a-b) - Previous citation corrected in that based on review of records all staff members responsible for transportation had current evidence of the two hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) The consultant discussed with the director that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. Please ensure that any loose item is secure or remove from the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 1/29/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 24****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 16

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Director provided [] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 11/15/2025****Corrected on 1/28/2026****.14(1) -****591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Technical Assistance****Correction Deadline: 12/31/2026****Corrected on 1/28/2026****.33(3)(a)-(k) -The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date.****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(4) - The consultant discussed with the director requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. Please ensure that the nutrition training includes all required topics.

Correction Deadline: 2/27/2026**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.

Comment

Please ensure that all qualifying statements are included on the employment application.

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****Correction Deadline: 10/16/2025****Corrected on 1/28/2026**

.32(4) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that children under 3-years-old were not housed in the same area as older children.

Correction Deadline: 10/27/2025

Corrected on 1/28/2026

.32(7) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that all children were supervised during the visit.