



**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:** 5/2/2023    **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up    **Arrival:** 10:50 AM    **Departure:** 1:45 PM

**CCLC-18144**

**Winnford Academy**

5796 Hog Mountain Rd. Flowery Branch, GA 30542 Hall County  
 (770) 945-3338 amber@winnford.com

**CCS Coordinator**

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934  
 Fax: (678) 891-5989  
 margarita.collier@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
05/02/2023	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing
01/26/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing
11/22/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

**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.

**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	Room A	Infants	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Feeding, Floor Play, Nap
Main	Room B	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Room C	One Year Olds	2	12	C	17	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning
Main	Room D	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	20	C	23	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Room E	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Room F	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	37	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning
Main	Room H	Four Year Olds	1	18	C	23	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch, Outside
Main	Room I	GA PreK	1	20	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room J	GA PreK	2	21	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 197					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 132			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 197			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				


Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Left-side	131	C
Main	Preschool playground	136	C

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to follow-up on the previous visit conducted on November 22, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.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](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.

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!**

---

Amber Dean, Program Official

Date

---

Margarita Collier, Consultant

Date



**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

**(Findings Report)**

**Date:** 5/2/2023 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:50 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

**CCLC-18144**

**Winnford Academy**

5796 Hog Mountain Rd. Flowery Branch, GA 30542 Hall County  
(770) 945-3338 amber@winnford.com

**CCS Coordinator**

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation & Follow Up:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Technical Assistance**

**Correction Deadline: 11/22/2022**

**Corrected on 5/2/2023**

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant did not observe children watching television and/or tablets. The consultant observed staff members to engage children in various outdoor activities and/or discussions during lunch time.

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that staff members have the most current lesson plans available for review.

**Correction Deadline: 5/2/2023**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure to monitor toys and equipment for normal wear and tear (i.e., cracked and/or broken toy storage bins, potential peeling on children's sofas, etc.).

**Facility**

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure to monitor the vents for dust build-up.

**Correction Deadline: 12/2/2022**

**Corrected on 5/2/2023**

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed the ventilation system to be working throughout the center.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

Correction Deadline: 11/22/2022

Corrected on 5/2/2023

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed all sleeping and/or resting children to be sleeping on their assigned mats during nap time.

**Staff Records**

---

**Technical Assistance**

The consultant discussed the following criminal record check rule reminders:

- 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.

**Comment**

The director provided ten files for staff members hired since the previous visit was conducted on November 22, 2022. The consultant observed ten of ten newly hired staff members to have evidence of a current satisfactory comprehensive determination letter on file.

**Staffing and Supervision**

---

Correction Deadline: 11/22/2022

Corrected on 5/2/2023

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed staff members to provide direct attention and care to the children's needs.