



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 3/30/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 11:50 AM **Departure:** 1:15 PM

**CCLC-1100**

**Austell Learning Academy**

2081 Mesa Valley Way Austell, GA 30106 Cobb County  
 (770) 948-2020 info@austelllearningacademy.com

**Regional Consultant**

Alison Benson

Phone: (866) 369-6921

Fax: (866) 370-1204

alison.benson@dec.al.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<u><b>Compliance Zone Designation</b></u>			<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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
03/30/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/14/2021	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
08/12/2021	Complaint Investigation & 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
Main	Rm A-1L	Infants	2	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	Rm B- 1L (2nd Room)	One Year Olds	2	9	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm C- 3L		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm E- Back L	Three Year Olds	1	16	C	28	C	39	C	Nap
Main	Rm F- Far Back L		0	0	C	21	C	30	C	
Main	Rm G- Middle Far Back		0	0	C	28	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm H- 5R	GA PreK	2	15	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm I- 4R	GA PreK	1	15	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm J- 3R	Two Year Olds	1	1	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm K- 2R	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm L- 1R		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 228					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 257					
Total # Children this Date: 70					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 257					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	8	C
Main	B	97	C
Main	C	46	C
Main	D	34	C

### Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a License Study Visit and to follow-up from the previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/30/2022

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/Regulations.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



### 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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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)

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Marie Mackall, Program Official

Date

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Alison Benson, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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#### CCLC-1100

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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.

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

N/A

##### Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

#### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 4**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met

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

Met

##### Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

#### Facility

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation the ceiling throughout the center was observed to be in need of repair. The 2L classroom and the back center classroom were observed to be worse than other areas.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 4/14/2022**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26 - Discussed maintenance of resilient surface, branches and pine cones. Please fluff and redistribute resilient surface as needed.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation, the following items need to either be repaired or removed from the outside playground area.

The Left Playground: Vines coming through the fence located on the left side and green peeling paint on the poles in the covered area.

The Back Center Playground: Rust on poles on the gate leading to the playground, on the wooden bridge- (4 holes in railing with sharp edges), (2 holes on the right railing) as well as multiple rusted nails which are exposed; peeling paint on the poles in the covered area and 1 tricycle with 2 missing pedals. Further, multiple tree roots were observed to be exposed in the back area causing possible tripping hazards.

The Right Playground: 1 tricycle was observed to have 1 missing pedal.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters. Consultant discussed all areas with director and provided a detailed list on what needs to be removed or repaired.

**Correction Deadline: 4/14/2022**

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<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Met****Correction Deadline: 10/14/2021****Corrected on 3/30/2022****.07(3) - This has been discussed and has been corrected.**

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff stated proper handwashing procedures.

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591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	N/A
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**Comment**

No medication is being dispensed at this time.

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Policies and Procedures
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591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting	Met
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**Correction Deadline: 10/14/2021**

**Corrected on 3/30/2022**

**.29(2) - Procedures have been discussed with the director.**

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	N/A
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**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	N/A
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**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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Sleeping & Resting Equipment
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591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)	Technical Assistance
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**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30 - Consultant discussed with the director on ensuring that all children have a sheet as well as a blanket for their cot during naptime.

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 - Consultant discussed with the director the importance of checking the mats regularly to ensure that they do not have any visible tears in them.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The director stated that she and her staff will look at all mats and either tape them with duct tape or remove them from the classrooms.

**Correction Deadline: 3/30/2022**

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Staff Records
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**Records Reviewed: 14****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 07/26/2022	<u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 08/28/2013	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 11/18/2013	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 07/24/2017	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 02/09/2009	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 02/28/2011	
Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 11/11/2024	<u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 14	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 14****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 Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) Met**

**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****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.