



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: 6/24/2026 VisitType: Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:40 AM Departure: 3:00 PM

CCLC-32801
East Lake Early Learning Academy
275 East Lake Blvd. Atlanta, GA 30317 DeKalb County
(404) 373-6561

Regional Consultant
Jessica Johnson
Phone: (770) 357-5090
Fax:
jessica.johnson@decal.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.
06/24/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/21/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/27/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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	1R-Hungry Catpillars	One Year Olds	3	1	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	2R-Busy Spiders	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	3R-Curious Crickets	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	4R-Brown Bears	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	5L-1R Green Frogs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	22	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	6L-2R Yellow Ducks	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 111			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 60			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 111 Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

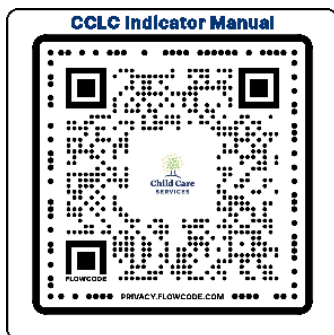
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	21	C
Main	B	32	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	11	14	30	31	0	0

Comments

On this date, Jessica Johnson (JJ), Consultant, reviewed the visit report with Assistant Director Brittany Paige. The investigative findings were not concluded on this date. The investigation remains open pending additional information. Upon completion, the findings will be reviewed with the child care program and a final copy of the report will be sent.

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.

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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

N/A

Comment

The rule was not evaluated on this date as a CI follow up was conducted.

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

Met

Comment

The rule was not evaluated on this date as a CI follow up was conducted.

Facility

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)

N/A

Comment

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

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that a four inch gap were observed on the front right fence near the road on playground A.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use. The Center will ensure that the spaces between the fence measure 3 inches or less.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2026

Recited on 6/24/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground 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. It was determined based on observation that there was rust on railing leading down to Playground B.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove the rust from the railing and routinely monitor the playground and remove hazards.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2026

Recited on 6/24/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/27/2026

Corrected on 6/24/2026

.10(4) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as a smooth diapering surface was observed in classroom 1R-Hungry Catpillars.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

N/A

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.

Comment

The rule was not evaluated on this date as a CI follow up was conducted.

Staff Records

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(CR)

Met

Comment

At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

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.

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Policies and Procedures

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

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2026

Corrected on 6/24/2026

.29(3) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as the program has submitted a required report to the Department.