



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: 2/18/2025 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:10 AM Departure: 1:55 PM

CCLC-37198

Head of the Class Learning Academy #1

2294 Wellborn Rd. Lithonia, GA 30058 DeKalb County
(770) 987-1311 headoftheclass1@gmail.com

Process & QI Unit Coordinator

Verlyn Blake

Phone: (404) 591-6059

Fax: (404) 591-6060

verlyn.blake@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.
02/18/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/24/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/25/2024	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/1R	Infants	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	B/2R	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C/3R		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	D/R Rear	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E/L Rear	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	F/Front Entrance		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 104

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 36

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 104

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG/Front	18	C
Main	PG/Rear	51	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	8	6	15	9	19	20

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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 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.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings 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.

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

Corrected on 2/18/2025

.12(2) - Previous citation was corrected in that based on observation in Classroom C: there was no water damage visible on the top right corner of the toy shelf, and the table legs on the activity table were secured. Additionally, in Classroom E: the play kitchen had been replaced.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Comment

Please be mindful to keep the packaging of wet wipes that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

Corrected on 2/18/2025

.25(13) - The previous citation was corrected in that based on observation there were no hazardous materials accessible to the children in any of the children's restroom.

Correction Deadline: 5/10/2024

Corrected on 2/18/2025

.25(3) - Previous citation was corrected in that based on observation the children's hand washing sink in Classroom B had been repaired. Additionally, in Classroom B, the door leading to the Playground was flush and did not have any sharp edges.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/10/2024

Corrected on 2/18/2025

.26(6) - The previous citation was corrected in that based on observation there were no areas that had splintering wood on the large play structure, and the black mats had been removed. Additionally in the small front playground there was no chipping paint observed.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

Corrected on 2/18/2025

.17(7) - Previous citation was observed to corrected in that based on observation children's hands were washed at appropriate times throughout the day with liquid soap and warm running water as required.

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

Corrected on 2/18/2025

.17(8) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected in that based on observation staff members washed their hands while assisting the children as required.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals N/A

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) N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

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-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(4) 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. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #5 who had the primary responsibility for food preparation did not have evidence of the four clock hours of training as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2025

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.