



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: 4/27/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 12:10 PM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

CCLC-32801

East Lake Early Learning Academy

275 East Lake Blvd. Atlanta, GA 30317 DeKalb County
(404) 373-6561

Special Investigations Unit Specialist

Brittany Cook

Phone: (706) 434-4412

Fax: (706) 434-7708

brittany.cook@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Colette Bolds

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.
04/27/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/13/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/15/2025	LS POI 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	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap,Free Play
Main	2R-Busy Spiders	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	12	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	3R-Curious Crickets	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	14	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap,Transitioning
Main	4R-Brown Bears	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	14	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	5L-1R Green Frogs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	18	C	22	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Transitioning
Main	6L-2R Yellow Ducks	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 111

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 85

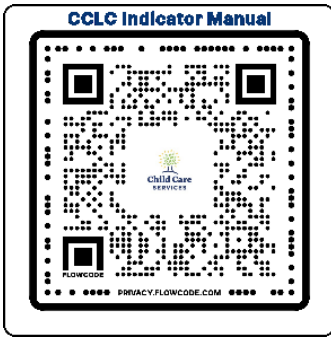
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 111

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

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

Comments

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.



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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



**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

Summary Report

Date: 4/27/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 12:10 PM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

CCLC-32801

East Lake Early Learning Academy

275 East Lake Blvd. Atlanta, GA 30317 DeKalb County

(404) 373-6561

Special Investigations Unit Specialist

Brittany Cook

Phone: (706) 434-4412

Fax: (706) 434-7708

brittany.cook@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Colette Bolds

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

	Facility
--	-----------------

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 two four inch gaps were observed on the front right fence near the road on playground A. Additionally, there was a 6 inch gap under the back gate that faced the parking lot on the Main B playground.

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: 5/11/2026

Recited on 4/27/2026

Correction Deadline: 2/27/2026

Corrected on 4/27/2026

.26(6) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant did not observe any tricycles on the Main A playground.

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 both railing leading down to Playground B. Additionally, there were metal piping protruding from the ground near the building on the Main B playground accessible to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2026

Recited on 4/27/2026

Health and Hygiene

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diapering pad in classroom 1R- Hungry Catpillers was cracked on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 4/27/2026

Recited on 4/27/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(b) - Please ensure that cots and mats shall be provided for each child who is two (2) years of age or older and who is required to take a nap and for each child under the age of two (2) years who can climb out of a crib.

Correction Deadline: 4/27/2026

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(4) - Please ensure that children under three years old to be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances.

Correction Deadline: 4/27/2026