



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: 5/19/2025 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM **Departure:** 3:30 PM

CCLC-66359

Chroma Early Learning Academy at McDonough

90 Hunters Chase McDonough, GA 30253 Henry County
(404) 360-8838 mcdonough@chromaela.com

Application Services Unit Consultant

Crystal Miller

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Joint with: Margaret Pringle

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.
05/19/2025	Initial Licensing Study	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
Building A	Room A-1st R Infants	Infants	1	1	C	10	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Building A	Room B-2nd R 2 year old	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Building A	Room C-3rd R 1 Year Olds		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Building A	Room D-4th R 3 and 4 year		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Building A	Room E-5th R 4 year old		0	0	C	29	C	NA	NA	
Building A	Room F-6th R Afterschool		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Building A	Room G-6th L Afterschool		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Building A	Room H-5th L 4 and 5 year	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	19	C	30	C	NA	NA	Nap
Building A	Room I-4th L 3 and 4 year old		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Building A	Room J-3rd L 1 year olds	One Year Olds	1	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 198			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 31			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 198							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building A	Playground A 1 R	25	C
Building A	Playground B 2 R	65	C
Building A	Playground C-1L	22	C
Building A	Playground D-2L	15	C
Building A	Playground E-3L	50	C
Building A	Playground F-Back	141	C

Comments

The child care program received a final license on this date. Limited capacity 198 per center's request for Classroom A. The facility carries liability insurance.

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.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

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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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Technical Assistance

The Department requires the Center to provide a daily planned program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities to promote social, emotional, physical, cognitive, language and literacy growth. Center Staff shall use a variety of teaching methods to accommodate the needs of the children's different learning styles. Please ensure to add missing centers which include art, science, dramatic play, and music to Classrooms B, C, D, E, F, G, I, & J.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

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

Met

Technical Assistance

The Department requires Center Staff to provide table space for each child who is able to sit at a table unassisted and an appropriately sized chair or bench for each child who is not an infant and who is able to use a chair or bench. Please add age appropriate chairs and tables in Classroom B 114, Classroom C 113, Classroom J 106 which serves ages ones and twos.

Correction Deadline: 6/18/2025

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

Met

Comment

Pool was observed on this date 05/19/25 enclosed and locked with a fence measuring over four (4) feet in height. Pool not in use at this time. Pool was observed to have standing water inside. Consultant discussed with directors during initial inspection visit that pool gate and pool house should remain locked at all times. Please ensure to drain water out of the pool or place a cover over the pool.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

Finding

591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observation that bathroom exhaust fans in Classrooms E, F, G, H, & J were not operable.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 6/18/2025

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center. The overall licensed capacity is 198 children.

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 that chipping paint was on the left and right side walls in Classroom J.

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: 5/19/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(6) The Department requires each child's personal items to be kept in individually labeled cubbies, lockers or racks separated from articles used by other children. The spaces shall be accessible to the children to whom they are assigned. The cubbies in Classroom B 114, Classroom C 113, and Classroom J 106 were too high and inaccessible for the age group being served. It was recommended to add hooks and bags to these classrooms to provide accessible storage to age being served.

Correction Deadline: 6/18/2025

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(21) requires that all floor level windows or full-length glass doors be constructed of safety glass with decals applied at the eye level of the children or such windows or doors shall have protective devices covering the glass designed to prevent the children from getting cut by the glass should it break for any reason. Except in School-age Centers, child care rooms shall have outside windows which receive natural sunlight and equal not less than five percent (5%) of the floor area in each room, unless central heating and air conditioning are provided. It was determined based on observation that full-length glass door in Classrooms B, C, D, E, & I that are not school-age did not have decals applied at the eye level of the children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that glass windows and doors that are accessible to children are constructed of safety glass with decals at children's eye level and will ensure there are adequate outside windows or will provide central heat and air conditioning.

Correction Deadline: 5/29/2025

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

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure exposed screw protrusions are capped or cut back two (2) threads on fencing leading to Playground E.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - Please ensure toy cars on Playground C are cleaned and all debris removed. Also access chains on swings will be removed.

Correction Deadline: 5/29/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the following issues with the swing equipment;

Playground F resilience surface measured less than one inch. The green swing set on Playground F is over five (5) feet in height requiring six (6) inches of resilience material in the fall zones. The borders surrounding the playground equipment was unassembled thus creating a tripping hazard.

The blue and yellow play tractor structure will be removed from behind the blue swing structure on Playground F. Also the resilience material under the blue swings should measure at six (6) inches.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 5/29/2025

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 the following hazards;

Playground F

- Railroad tire border with long protruding nails accessible.
- Uneven surface between the hard and soft surfacing around the basketball court and the sidewalks.
- The fencing surrounding the wastewater area is unattached from the fence post.
- The right side of Playground F mushrooms were accessible.
- Exposed tree roots.

Playground E

- Exposed railroad tire border near the play structure.

Right Side Building

- The right side of the building near the pool storage building door lacked a lock.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Food Service**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Staff stated proper procedures. Sinks with warm running water observed adjacent to proper diapering surfaces in all classrooms approved for diapering. Please ensure that warm running water is at all diapering sinks.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(7) -The Department requires Center Staff to provide liquid soap, individually dispensed single-use hand towels, single-use wash cloths, and covered storage container for soiled items. Please ensure a covered storage container with a liner for soiled items is added to each diapering room. Also label each disposable container in the diapering rooms.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director/teachers 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**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on observation that on May 19, 2025 transportation check list was reviewed and a second check of vehicle was not conducted and the form lacked a signature on May 05, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Consultant observed ten (10) of ten (10) cribs meeting safety compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards manufactured in (2011). Consultant discussed safe sleeping requirements with the director during the inspection visit.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(c) requires that pillows shall not be used by children under two (2) years of age. When used for children two (2) years of age or older, pillows shall be assigned for individual use and covered with pillow cases that are marked for individual use or covered with cases that are laundered daily. Pillow cases that are marked for individual use shall be laundered weekly or more frequently as needed. It was determined based on observation a child under the age of two was observed asleep with a pillow in Classroom J 106.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will: remove pillows from any children under two (2) years of age; assign pillows for individual and use pillow cases; mark each pillow case or launder them daily; and launder individually marked pillow cases at least weekly. The pillow was removed upon my request.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined based on observation cots were observed in the hallway accessible to the children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will store cots and mats so children do not have access to them and they don't take up play space and will store them so each child's bedding is separate from the others.

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2025

Staff Records**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. Fifteen (15) of fifteen (15) staff records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file.

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.