



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: 8/8/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 1:30 PM **Departure:** 4:25 PM

CCLC-52034
Hopscotch Academy
1288 Braselton Highway Lawrenceville, GA 30043 Gwinnett
County
(678) 629-3807 lacotton1@gmail.com

Regional Consultant
Lynn Schnitzer
Phone: (678) 717-5720
Fax: (770) 344-5683
lynn.schnitzer@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.
08/08/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/29/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/23/2024	Licensing Study	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 Building I	A-1st Left		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main Building I	B-2nd left Potty Trained Only	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building I	C-2nd Right		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main Building I	D-1st Left Non-Potty Trained Only		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 9			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	0	5	5	0	0	0

Comments

Consultant discussed the visit report with the Director, LaVerne Cotton. Due to connectivity issues the report will be emailed to the program on August 8, 2025.

Consultant provided a copy of the updated Weather Watch chart.

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.decal.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@decal.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 LS:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

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

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2024

Prior Visits: 12/28/2021

Corrected on 8/8/2025

.08(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed children's files to be complete and well organized.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1)(b)

- Consultant discussed with director to ensure that they have written authorization for the Center to obtain emergency medical care for the child when the Parent is not available for one of five records reviewed.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2025

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

Comment

591-1-1-.25(11) - Per discussion with director, repair is scheduled to replace the loose floorboard in the hallway to the right of the playground door.

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2025

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(2) - The center is planning to begin serving infants. Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that they obtain feeding forms from children under the age of 12 months, and to update the forms every three months.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2025

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations	Met
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Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(2)(r) - New - Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.

Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 8/13/2025

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****Comment**

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that crib mattresses are firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick, and covered with a waterproof, washable material.Center is not currently serving infants.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(2) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that infants are placed on their backs to sleep in a safety approved cribs, that any sleep sacks or wearable blankets used fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face, and that no objects shall be placed in the crib with an infant or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2025

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

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit August 29, 2024.

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 8/8/2025

.14(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed staff to have current certification in CPR/First Aid.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2025

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 9/6/2024

Prior Visits: 01/23/2024

Corrected on 8/8/2025

.33(4) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the required persons to have completed four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) - New - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on review of records that staff #3 date of hire November 1, 2021, did not have evidence of ten hours of annual training on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2025

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2024

Prior Visits: 01/23/2024

Corrected on 8/8/2025

.32(7) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed adequate supervision during the visit.