



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
3 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 3/9/2026 VisitType: Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study Arrival: 9:00 AM Departure: 2:15 PM

CCLC-49073

Legacy Academy Smyrna

4390 South Cobb Drive Smyrna, GA 30080 Cobb County
(770) 874-3828

Lead Consultant

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Joint with: Tashana Cephas

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
03/09/2026	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/03/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
10/02/2025	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 Infants	Infants	2	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Diapering
Main	B Infants		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C One's	One Year Olds	2	7	C	19	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Art
Main	D Two's	One Year Olds	2	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	E Two's	Two Year Olds	3	16	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	F Three's	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	G Three's	Three Year Olds	2	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	H After School	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	25	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	I Four's	Four Year Olds	2	16	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	J Four's	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 188			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Amount of Equipment Available			
Total # Children this Date: 99		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 188			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	53	C
Main	B	59	C
Main	C	38	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
17	8	37	21	31	0	0

Comments

The Director received a copy of the visit report. The Investigation was not completed on the day of the visit.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed



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.decal.ga.gov/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.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

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.decal.ga.gov/> 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:

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!



Summary Report

Date: 3/9/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM
Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

Comment

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

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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)

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

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

Met

Comment

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

Food Service

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

Met

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.16(f) - Discussed that currently there were only 3 Playgrounds listed on the license. However the program was utilizing the Patio space that was not measured and licensed. An Amendment application needed to be submitted.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2026

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Met

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Met

Comment

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Comment

Discussed reporting requirements.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

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)**Met****Comment**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete on this date.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation. The program rents vehicles for Field Trips.

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Comment

The vehicle was checked for compliance. Proper restraints were observed and discussed with the director.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on review of records that there was no evidence of Transportation training for the Director.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2026

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(2) - Discussed that pediatrician's note was needed for helmets and half-helmets used in the Infant rooms.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2026

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 25****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 19**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/17/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/21/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 4	Not Met
Date of Hire: 04/02/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 5	Not Met
Date of Hire: 01/02/2026	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing	
Staff # 6	Not Met
Date of Hire: 07/04/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 7	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/03/2018	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing	
Staff # 9	Not Met
Date of Hire: 09/26/2023	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 11	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/12/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 13	Not Met
Date of Hire: 02/04/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing	
Staff # 14	Not Met
Date of Hire: 04/01/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 15	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/27/2023	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 16	Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/26/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 18

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/04/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 19

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/12/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 20

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 22

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/26/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 25

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/01/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing,.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Correction Deadline: 10/2/2025**Corrected on 3/9/2026****.09(1)(a) - Previous citation was corrected as Comprehensive Satisfactory Background checks were observed for all staff.**

Correction Deadline: 10/2/2025

Corrected on 3/9/2026

.09(1)(c) - Previous citation was corrected as Comprehensive Satisfactory Background checks were observed for all staff.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on review of records that 9 staff did not have evidence of First Aid/CPR training within 45 days of hire on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on review of records that there were two Staff in room F Three's and neither one of them had evidence of First Aid/CPR on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(d) requires the Center Director must have current evidence of successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid at all times. It was determined based on review of records that the Director did not have evidence of Pediatric First Aid/CPR on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director must successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid taught by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Director will send copies via email of verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion.

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.33(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task. It was determined based on review of records that there was no evidence of initial Staff Orientation for 8 staff members.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and provide orientation for all new Staff prior to their assignment to children or task.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on review of records that there was no evidence of the Health and Safety training within 90 days from hire for seven staff.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2026

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 review of records that there was no evidence of four hours Nutrition training for the Director.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2026

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 there was no evidence of 10 hours annual training for five staff.

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: 4/8/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. requires the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices. It was determined based on review of records that there was no evidence of the required two hours literacy and language training for five staff.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year to include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2026

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.

Comment

Discussed proper supervision: responding promptly, bathrooms and playgrounds.