



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: 7/9/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-3583

The Learning Grove Academy - Jonesboro

1967 Spring Place Jonesboro, GA 30236 Clayton County
(770) 472-5354 rbutler@learninggroveacademy.com

Special Investigations Unit Sr. Specialist

Tracey Caine

Phone: (706) 497-1536

Fax: (404) 567-6041

tracey.caine@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.
07/09/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
05/30/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
05/30/2025	Complaint Investigation & 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	Room A: Infant : 1st Left	Infants	1	4	C	16	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Nap,Free Play
Main	Room B: Toddler:1Right	One Year Olds	1	7	C	15	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Room C: 1yr olds: 2nd left		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room D: 2 & 3 yr olds: 2nd right	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Room E: 3 yr olds: 3rd left	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Room F: Private Pre-K: Rear right		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room G: GA Pre-K: 3rd right	GA PreK	2	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room H: GA Pre-K: 4th right	GA PreK	2	18	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room I: preschool: Rear right	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Art
Main	Room J: Gym / Afterschool: rear left		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 200			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 78			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Comments

07-01-25: The purpose of today's visit was to conduct an investigative site visit and follow up on previous citations. The report date is listed as 07-09-25; however, the site visit was conducted on 07-01-25. The program would not allow the Consultant to back date the visit report. At the time of the visit, the myKoala program was being updated and the Consultant had to complete the visit utilizing the paper visit form.

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

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!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a CI FollowUp:

Facility

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.26(6)-Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit. Due to myKoala being down for upgrades, the previous citations were not on the latest visit report.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 6/9/2025

Prior Visits: 05/30/2025

Defer

591-1-1-.26(8)-Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit. Due to myKoala being down for upgrades, the previous citations were not on the latest visit report.

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: 6/9/2025

Prior Visits: 05/30/2025

Staff Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/30/2025

Prior Visits: 05/30/2025

Corrected on 7/9/2025

.09(1)(j) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that all staff members present at the center had a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.33(4)-Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit. Due to myKoala being down for upgrades, the previous citations were not on the latest visit report.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 6/29/2025**Prior Visits: 05/30/2025**