



**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:** 2/25/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:10 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-66023**

**Lil Scholars Academy**

419 Benedict Rd Brunswick, GA 31520 Glynn County  
(912) 574-7004

Regional Consultant

Jerica Davis

Phone: (478) 314-9452

Fax: (478) 314-9443

jerica.davis@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| Compliance Zone Designation |                         |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/25/2026                  | Licensing Study         | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/01/2025                  | Monitoring Visit        | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 03/25/2025                  | Initial 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                            | A: Infant (First Left)           |                                                       | 0                               | 0        | C    | 11         | C            | NA         | NA           |                         |
| Main                            | B: Fours (2nd Left)              | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 2                               | 17       | C    | 26         | C            | NA         | NA           | Breakfast,Transitioning |
| Main                            | C: Threes (3rd Left)             |                                                       | 0                               | 0        | C    | 29         | C            | NA         | NA           |                         |
| Main                            | D: Ones (1st Right)              | One Year Olds                                         | 2                               | 9        | C    | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers,Transitioning   |
| Main                            | E: Infants (2nd Right)           | Infants                                               | 1                               | 6        | C    | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap,Floor Play          |
| Main                            | F: Older Twos/Threes (3rd Right) |                                                       | 0                               | 0        | C    | 10         | C            | NA         | NA           |                         |
| Main                            | G: Twos (4th Right)              | Two Year Olds                                         | 1                               | 8        | C    | 12         | C            | NA         | NA           | Diapering,Centers       |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122 |                                  |                                                       | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0   |          |      |            |              |            |              |                         |
| Total # Children this Date: 40  |                                  |                                                       | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                         |
|                                 |                                  |                                                       | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0   |          |      |            |              |            |              |                         |

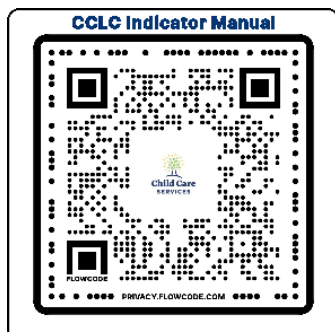
| Building | Playground                  | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Preschool Playground (Left) | 33                   | C                     |
| Main     | Toddler Playground (Right)  | 25                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 7                 | 13      | 11      | 10      | 6       | 0                  | 10                |

#### Comments

The visit report was reviewed with the Director on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



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.

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#### 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](http://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.

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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](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



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**Summary Report**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. Please repair, replace, or remove the small blue table in classroom B that had a rip on the top.

**Correction Deadline: 2/25/2026**

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

**Met**

**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**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure fencing materials do 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. Please ensure all fencing is in good repair.

**Correction Deadline: 2/25/2026**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that outdoor equipment be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. Please check outdoor toys for cracks and breaks and repair, remove, or replace as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 3/7/2026**

**Food Service**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**

**Met**

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

**Health and Hygiene**

**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure Center Staff do not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. Please ensure necklaces are not worn at the center.

**Correction Deadline: 2/25/2026**

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

**Met**

**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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

**591-1-1-.05 Animals**

**Met**

**Comment**

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Met**

**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.

**Staff Records**

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|                                                                             |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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|                                            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.14 First Aid &amp; CPR(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.33 Staff Training</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

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|                                                          |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.