



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: 5/14/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:15 AM **Departure:** 4:20 PM

CCLC-63978
Chroma Early Learning Academy of Ellenwood
 2765 E Atlanta Rd Ellenwood, GA 30294 Henry County
 (678) 580-6526

Regional Consultant
 Dyneshia Lynn
 Phone: ()
 Fax:
 dyneshia.lynn@decal.ga.gov
 Joint with: Yolanda Marable

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
05/14/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
03/13/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/30/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

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.

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Back Building	A-First Room		0	0	C	31	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Back Building	B-Middle Room		0	0	C	31	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Back Building	C-Back Room		0	0	C	31	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 93			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main Building	A-1st Left	Infants	2	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Feeding, Floor Play
Main Building	B-2nd Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	15	C	27	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside
Main Building	C-3rd Left		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main Building	D-Middle		0	0	C	39	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main Building	E-3rd Right	One Year Olds	2	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main Building	F-2nd Right	Two Year Olds	2	17	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	G-1st Right	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	17	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 156			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 66			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 249			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Back Building	Back	13	C
Back Building	Back Middle	66	C
Back Building	Front	44	C
Back Building	Middle	21	C
Back Building	Right-Hard Surface/Track	11	C

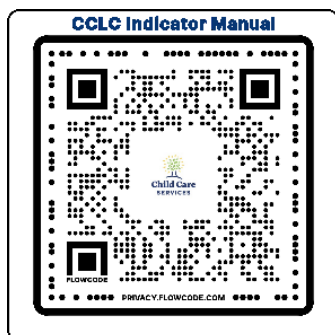
Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
13	11	23	20	10	0	20

Comments

The exit conference was discussed with the Assistant Director.

POI was left 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.dec.al.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@dec.al.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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

Comment

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

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026

Corrected on 5/14/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Classroom Main Building D- Middle had three brown cubbies and black storage near the back door secured. Classroom Main Building F-2nd Right Two Year Olds had the white shelf near the blue cots secured.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the fourth cabinet door under the sink in classroom Main Building B-2nd Left Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds had one bottle of clorox toilet bowl cleaner and a plunger wrapped in a grocery bag that was accessible to children which posed an hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

Recited on 5/14/2026

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 the following hazards are in need of repairs:

B 2nd left

- * Underneath the cubbies on the right side had chipped paint
- * Chipped paint on the right and left of the screen projector television.
- * Chipped paint on the left side wall by the back door
- * Chipped paint on the right wall by the front door.
- * Bottom of the left toilet had a screw longer than two threads .

F 2nd Right

- * Chipped paint on the pink window seal near the back door.
- * Water stained ceiling tile over left toilet.
- * Bottom of the left toilet had a screw longer than two threads .

G 1st Right

- * Exposed dry wall by the front classroom door
- * Water stained ceiling tile over left toilet.

E 3rd Right

- * Water stained ceiling tile on the back left corner near the back door.

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: 6/4/2026

Recited on 5/14/2026

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

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall 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. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that the Back Building Right Hand Surface/Track front exit gate near the parking lot had a 4-inch gap that posed an entrapment hazard . Additionally, The exit gate was open which posed a eloping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 5/18/2026

Recited on 5/14/2026

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 that the Back Building Front playground had a screw protruding out the wood panel on the left near the second door on the right which posed a scratching hazard. It was further determined that on Back Building Back Middle playground had a screw protruding out the wood panel next to the second right window near the first door on the right which posed a scratching hazard.

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: 6/5/2026

Recited on 5/14/2026

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

Please ensure to add the daily dates to the weekly menus.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026**Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026****Corrected on 5/14/2026**

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Classrooms Main Building E-3rd Right One Year Olds and F-2nd Right Two Year Olds were served the appropriate food size. to prevent choking hazards.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026****Corrected on 5/14/2026**

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Classroom E-3rd Right One Year Olds and F 2nd Right Two Year Olds had used the appropriate handwashing procedure, as required.

Finding

)591-1-1-.17(7)(a) requires washcloth handwashing be used only for infants when the infant is too heavy to hold or cannot stand safely and for children with special needs; requires that an individual washcloth be used only once for each child before laundering. It was determined based on observation that classroom A- 1st Left Infants and One Year Olds, a child was observed to not hand wash after diapering was completed, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on how to correctly use washcloth handwashing and will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure to complete the medical form with the dates that the medication was given, marking the adverse reaction, the parent is dating the medication usage and the administered signature.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026**Policies and Procedures****591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Correction Deadline: 6/5/2026****Corrected on 5/14/2026**

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The policies and procedures were completed with the new rule information.

Correction Deadline: 3/18/2026**Corrected on 5/14/2026**

The previous citation was observed corrected on this day. The emergency fire drills for the year 2025 through May 2026 had been completed.

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

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026

Corrected on 5/14/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Classroom B 2nd-Left and G-1st Right was observed to use appropriate disciplinary action.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on review of records that bus tag#SDH3859 and tag#YXV516 did not have evidence of the annual safety check for year 2026.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 5/22/2026

Recited on 5/14/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were found on the vehicles

Tag#SDH3859

* Metal bar protruding out the top back left wall near the back exit door.

Tag#YXV516

* Grey duct tape was on the drivers seat.

* First left seat had tears.

* First right seat had exposed foam .

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2026

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2026

Corrected on 5/14/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Students were marked for evening transportation for Utopia Elementary and East Clayton Elementary.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026

Corrected on 5/14/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. classroom A -st Left did not have any bibs hanging from the cribs.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed with the director adding blinds and blackout curtains to classroom A-1st Left to help regulate the room temperature.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 22

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/22/2026

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 11 Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/13/2026

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 21 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/11/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 22 Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/16/2026

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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

Comment

Director provided 12 files for employees hired since the last visit.

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

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Corrected on 5/14/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The first aid kits were complete with all components.

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 a review of records that Staff#1 date of hire January 22, 2026, Staff#11 date of hire April 13, 2026, Staff#21 date of hire May 5, 2011 and Staff#22 date of hire April 16, 2026 did not have evidence of a completed orientation training, as required

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: 5/15/2026

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) Met

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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.