



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: 7/15/2025 **VisitType:** LS POI Follow Up

Arrival: 10:35 AM **Departure:** 3:30 PM

CCLC-32801
East Lake Early Learning Academy
275 East Lake Blvd. Atlanta, GA 30317 DeKalb County
(404) 373-6561

Regional Consultant
Jessica Johnson
Phone: (770) 357-5090
Fax:
jessica.johnson@dec.al.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.
07/15/2025	LS POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
05/05/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/30/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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	1R-Hungry Catpillars	One Year Olds	2	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Floor Play
Main	2R-Busy Spiders	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	17	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Mu sic
Main	3R-Curious Crickets	Three Year Olds	2	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transiti oning
Main	4R-Brown Bears	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transiti oning
Main	5L-1R Green Frogs	Four Year Olds	2	13	C	22	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	6L-2R Yellow Ducks	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transiti oning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 111					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 60					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	21	C
Main	B	32	C

Comments

On this date, July 15, 2024, Consultant Jessica Johnson reviewed the visit report with Director Michael Truesdale.

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.decgal.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@decgal.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 LS POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure the telephones in classroom 2R-Busy Spiders are stored to be accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2025

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

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.06(4) - Please ensure that the ventilation in the first restroom in classroom 5L-1R Green Frogs is fully functioning.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2025

Comment

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

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - Please ensure that diaper wipes are stored in a locked area inaccessible to children in care.

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Please ensure that the peeling paint in classrooms 2R Busy Spiders and 6L Yellow duck area are repaired.

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2025

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(4) - Please ensure the Center maintains the temperature in the range of 65 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2025

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 two four inch gaps were observed on the front right fence on playground A.

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: 8/5/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall 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. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that rust was observed on the red tricycle and the yellow insect structure on playground A.

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: 7/29/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please ensure to spray paint the drainage pipe under the stairs to prevent a tripping hazard.

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2025

Food Service

Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk
 5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk
 2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(3) - Please ensure that the thermometer in the refrigerator in classroom 1R-Catipillers is in working order.

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2025

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Not Evaluated****Comment**

The Program does not have a kitchen area on site. The Program provides catered food.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that there was a small hole on the diapering pad in classroom 3R-Curious Crickets.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 8/5/2025

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.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(4) - Discussed updating the Center's Policies and Procedures to include: behavior management (suspension/expulsion policies) and information regarding shaken baby syndrome.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2025

Correction Deadline: 5/5/2025

Corrected on 7/15/2025

.29(3) - Please ensure that the Director or designated person-in-charge reports to the Department within twenty-four (24) hours or the next work day: any death of a child while in the care of the Center; any serious illness or injury requiring hospitalization or professional medical attention other than first aid of a child while in the care of the Center; any situation when a child in care becomes missing, such as, but not limited to, a child who is left on a vehicle, a child who leaves the building, playground, or property, or a child who is left behind on any trip; any fire; any structural disaster; any emergency situation that requires temporarily relocating children; and any time the program's operating status changes (i.e., open to closed or temporarily closed and temporarily closed to open).

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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(1)(a)3 - Please ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet on the mattress.

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2025

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 22

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 22

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/07/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Please ensure that all independent contractors and or volunteers who work less than once every 90 days or other individuals who do not require a CBC must be supervised at all times by center staff.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)**Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center on this date.

Technical Assistance

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

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2025

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 a review of records that Staff # 22 hired on July 7, 2025, did not have current evidence of successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid as required.

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: 7/29/2025

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.24(1) - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025 all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. must complete an employee orientation form.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2025

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) Discussed that effective July 1, 2025 each staff person is required to have two hours of language & literacy training annual. Additionally staff must obtain two hours of ongoing health & safety annually.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2025

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.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2025

Corrected on 7/15/2025

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