



**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:** 11/10/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-37198**

**Head of the Class Learning Academy #1**

2294 Wellborn Rd. Lithonia, GA 30058 DeKalb County  
(770) 987-1311

Regional Consultant

Evon Hewitt

Phone: ()

Fax:

evon.hewitt@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                                            |               | <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. |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11/10/2025                         | Monitoring Visit                           | Deficient     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 09/05/2025                         | Complaint Closure                          | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/04/2025                         | Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit | 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/1R             | Infants and One Year Olds       | 1                           | 5        | C                             | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play,Feeding   |
| Main                           | B/2R             |                                 | 0                           | 0        | C                             | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use           |
| Main                           | C/3R             | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds | 2                           | 10       | C                             | 10         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers,Music        |
| Main                           | D/R Rear         | Three Year Olds                 | 1                           | 10       | C                             | 18         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers,Clean Up     |
| Main                           | E/L Rear         |                                 | 0                           | 0        | C                             | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use           |
| Main                           | F/Front Entrance | GA PreK                         | 2                           | 18       | C                             | 26         | C            | NA         | NA           | Art,Centers,Out side |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:    |                  |                                 | 104                         |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                      |
| Total # Children this Date: 43 |                  |                                 | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                      |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | PG/Front   | 18                   | C                     |
| Main     | PG/Rear    | 51                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 7                 | 7       | 8       | 14      | 15      | 5                  | 22                |

#### Comments

The findings of this report were reviewed with the Provider on this date. Previous rule violations were observed/discussed.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 11/25/2025

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.

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



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**Summary Report**

**Date:** 11/10/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that the shelf at the back left of classroom C/3R was unsecured and easily able to be tipped over on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 11/11/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.12(6) - requires that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area. The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials are available and stored on low open shelves accessible to children in classroom C/3R.

**Correction Deadline: 12/10/2025**

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

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

**Not Met**

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 following potential hazards were accessible to children on this date:

- There were two trash bags at the back left of the classroom in a crate on the floor.

-There were two plastic grocery bags at the front right in the children's cubbies.

-There was a plastic grocery bag, a stapler, and a bottle of Comet cleaning spray in a storage cubby at the middle right of the classroom.

-There was a bottle of Purell hand sanitizer and a pack of Huggies baby wipes in an unlocked storage closet at the right middle of the classroom.

**Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025**

**Recited on 11/10/2025**

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 there was a broken exterior window with sharp edges outside of classroom B/ 2R accessible to children.

**Correction Deadline: 12/10/2025**

**Recited on 11/10/2025**

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that there were hanging electrical cords in an unlocked closet at the right middle of classroom F/ Front Entrance on this date.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

**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**

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(6)(d) - requires that caregivers not use food to punish or reward children. The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that food is not used as a reward or punishment.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

**Health and Hygiene**

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

.07(5) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant did not observe pacifiers or other hazardous items being worn around children's necks or attached to their clothing on this date.

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

Met

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Not Met

**Finding**

591-1-1-.17(2) requires that Personnel, to the extent possible, keep children clean, dry and comfortable. It was determined based on observation that four out of six children had runny noses on this date.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

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

N/A

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**

Met

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Not Met

**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 vehicle used for transportation (Tag #TFB0972) had trash and food debris on the floor on this date. It was further determined that there was a bottle containing an unknown solution accessible to children.

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**Correction Deadline: 11/17/2025**

**Recited on 11/10/2025**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on a review of records that the center failed to document in writing the second check of the vehicle during the morning route on Monday, October 27, 2025, from the Center to Stoneview Elementary School.

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**Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025**

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|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

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

**Met**

**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.

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

**Records Reviewed: 7**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.,.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined based on observation that the vehicle used for routine transportation (Tag# TFB0972) was missing the following items from the first aid kit:

-Face masks  
-A cold pack  
-Band aids, assorted sizes  
-Tweezers  
-Scissors

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**Correction Deadline: 11/13/2025**

**Recited on 11/10/2025**

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

Not Met

**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 a review of records that Staff #5, hired September 9, 2015, with primary responsibility for food preparation did not have evidence of completing four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage as required.

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**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2025**

**Recited on 11/10/2025**

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

Met

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on observation that classroom A/1R housed four infant children and two 1-year-old children present during the visit when a 3-year old child entered the classroom and used the restroom.

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**Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025**

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**

Not Met

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that Staff did not provide watchful oversight of children when a 3-year-old child entered the A/1R classroom unsupervised to use the restroom on this date.

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**Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025**