



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: 4/24/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 8:55 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-52204

AMAZING BEGINNINGS ACADEMY

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Regional Consultant

Nadia Bernard

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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.
04/24/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/24/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/26/2025	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-1	Infants	1	2	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap, Outside
Main	A-2	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	B-3		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C-4	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D- Cafe		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-5		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F-6		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	G-7	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H-8	GA PreK	2	20	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I-9		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 167

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 43

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 167

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Right	52	C
Main	B- Left	80	C
Main	C- Rear	38	C

Comments

A one day letter and Affidavit Verifying Completion of Background Check Video Units were emailed to the director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

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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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 13

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 8 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2025

Corrected on 4/24/2025

.03(2) - The citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The consultant observed current lesson plans.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 4/24/2025

.12(4) - The citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The consultant observed the cots to be stored horizontally.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 13

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 8 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 4/24/2025

.25(13) - The citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The consultant observed staff bags to be inaccessible on this date.

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 Playground A that the perimeter fence entry and exit gate had a nine inch gap at the bottom. It was further observed that the fence near the swing on Playground B had a five and half inch gap from the foundation pole.

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. The consultant requested the center staff email picture of repairs to the fence.

Correction Deadline: 5/16/2025

Recited on 4/24/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that Playground B had three inches of resilient surface around the fall zones of the large slide when six inches of resilient surface was required.

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: 4/30/2025

Recited on 4/24/2025

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 on Playground C the drainage pipe was not in good repair and had exposed sharp edges.

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: 5/2/2025

Recited on 4/24/2025

Records Reviewed: 13

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 8 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of documents that staff # 1 did not have evidence of submitting both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of documents that staff # 1 and #4 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center on April 15, 2025. It was further determined that Staff # 8 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on investigation that staff # 9 had Comprehensive Satisfactory Background Check Determination that was completed within the preceding 12 months and was portable but have not been ported under the license number for the program. The staff member was the therapist for a student in Room H-8.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on observation that staff # 8 was observed on playground A with an expired Comprehensive Records Check. The Comprehensive Records Check expired on January 15, 2025. . It was further determined based on a review of documents that staff #4 was present on April 15, 2025 at the center with an expired Comprehensive Records Check Determination.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will check and create system to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2025

Staffing and Supervision

Records Reviewed: 13

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	
Staff # 4	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	
Staff # 8	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 4/24/2025

.32(7) - The citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The consultant adequate supervision on this date.