



**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:** 12/12/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:35 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-52703**

**Circle of Life Academy**

19 Colonial Trail Garden City, GA 31408 Chatham County  
(912) 495-5152 colacademy19@gmail.com

**Lead Consultant**

Kimberly Stoy

Phone: (678) 747-6836

Fax: (706) 314-7859

kimberly.stoy@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Jerica Davis

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| 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. |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12/12/2023                  | Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 06/22/2023                  | LS POI Follow Up                           | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02/28/2023                  | Incident Investigation Closure             | 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     | Infants        | 2     | 5        | C                             | 8          | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play,Nap         |
| Main                           | B-One's      | One Year Olds  | 1     | 8        | C                             | 10         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time            |
| Main                           | C-2's        | Two Year Olds  | 1     | 10       | C                             | 11         | C            | NA         | NA           | Story                  |
| Main                           | D-School age | Four Year Olds | 1     | 15       | C                             | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside,Transiti oning |
| Main                           | E-3-5 years  |                | 0     | 0        | C                             | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           |                        |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67 |              |                |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                        |
| Total # Children this Date: 38 |              |                |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                        |

| Building | Playground   | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground A | 61                   | C                     |

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was for a monitoring visit and complaint investigation. Program does not provide medication or swimming.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/12/2023

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.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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|                                     |      |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| Saunserie Johnson, Program Official | Date |
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|                                   |      |
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| Jerica Davis, Regional Consultant | Date |
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|                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Kimberly Stoy, Lead Consultant | Date |
|--------------------------------|------|



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**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 inspect the toy sink bins for cracking and replace as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 12/12/2023**

**591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**591-1-1.08 Children's Records**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 6/23/2023**

**Corrected on 12/12/2023**

**.08(1) - Consultant observed records to be complete on this date.**

**Correction Deadline: 6/22/2023**

**Corrected on 12/12/2023**

**.08(1)(b) - Consultant observed records to be complete on this date.**

**Facility**

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based on observation that the flooring in the bathroom of classroom C had peel and stick tile that had many gaps and sliding tiles and was not tight, smooth, and free from odors as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

**Correction Deadline: 1/11/2024**

**Correction Deadline: 7/5/2023**

**Corrected on 12/12/2023**

**.25(3) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The lights were covered and in good repair in classrooms D and E.**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****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 one of two funnel ball poles had exposed concrete at the bottom that posed a potential hazard. Additionally, between the second yellow bus and the red spinner, a root that measured six feet long was exposed that posed a potential trip hazard. Furthermore, near the first yellow bus, a root that measured two feet long was exposed that posed a potential trip 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: 12/12/2023**

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| <b>Food Service</b> |
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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks. It was determined based on observation that two infants were observed seated in high chairs and were not secured with the safety straps as required. Additionally, eight of eight children seated at the feeding table during lunch in classroom B were not strapped in with the safety straps as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will inspect feeding equipment to ensure it meets each of the listed criteria and to verify a feeding chair or equipment is provided for each child who requires one. The Center will train staff and monitor to ensure that the feeding equipment is cleaned with a disinfectant after each use.

**Correction Deadline: 12/12/2023**

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|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

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|                                                        |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
|  | <b>Safety</b> |
|--|---------------|

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**Comment**

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

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

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|                                                               |                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Not Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation that a three-month-old infant was observed asleep in a bouncy seat in classroom A for more than five minutes and was not moved to a safety-approved crib as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will only place infants in safe cribs to sleep and will transfer them to a safe crib when the infants are asleep in other equipment.

**Correction Deadline: 12/12/2023**

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

**Comment**

Director provided one file for an employee hired since the last visit.

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|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.33 Staff Training</b> | <b>Not Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|

**Correction Deadline: 6/29/2023**

**Corrected on 12/12/2023**

**.33(1) - Consultant reviewed orientation forms on this date.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that staff # 2 and #10 did not have evidence of health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

**Correction Deadline: 1/12/2024**

**Recited on 12/12/2023**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**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.