



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: 8/19/2026 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation/Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 3:45 PM

CCLC-3583

The Learning Grove Academy - Jonesboro

1967 Spring Place Jonesboro, GA 30236 Clayton County
 (770) 472-5354

Regional Consultant

Kayla Evans

Phone: (770) 296-7768

Fax:

kayla.evans@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.
08/19/2026	Incident Investigation/Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/28/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
05/28/2026	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	Room A: Infant : 1st Left	Infants	2	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap,Feeding
Main	Room B: Toddler:1Right	One Year Olds	1	7	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers,Music
Main	Room C: 1yr olds: 2nd left	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room D: 2 & 3 yr olds: 2nd right	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	22	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	Room E: 3 yr olds: 3rd left	Three Year Olds	2	19	C	21	C	NA	NA	Clean Up
Main	Room F: Private Pre-K: Rear right	GA PreK	2	11	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room G: GA Pre-K: 3rd right	GA PreK	1	8	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Story
Main	Room H: GA Pre-K: 4th right	GA PreK	2	14	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room I: preschool: Rear right		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room J: Gym / Afterschool: rear left		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 200			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 87			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 200							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

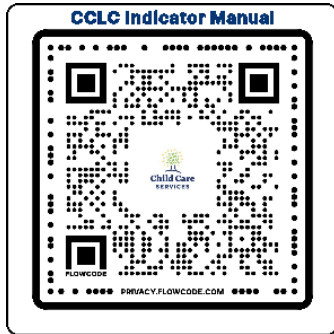
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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Enrolled Children					
Infant (0-12 months)	Toddler (1-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care)	School Age (before/after care only)	GA PreK only	Summer Only
12	28	22	12	39	0

Comments

Safe Sleeping and Food and Nutrition were discussed with the Director.

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>.



For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: <https://families.decal.ga.gov>.

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

Date: 8/19/2026 VisitType: Incident Investigation/Licensing Study Arrival: 10:30 AM Departure: 3:45 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that all classrooms should have lesson plans posted as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2026

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

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.

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

Comment

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by 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 observations that the following items were accessible to children:

Room E

-Staff Bag on Cubby

Room G

-Adult Scissors

-Staff Bag

-Empty Trash Bags

Room H

-Disinfectant Wipes in Cubby

-Empty Trash Bags in Cubby

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: 8/19/2026

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Comment

Playground observed to be clean on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that all equipment on the Playground should be in good repair and rust free as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2026

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(5) requires that the Center provide a menu listing all meals and snacks to be served during the current week except for School-age Centers where the food may be provided by the Parent(s) by agreement between the School-age Center and the Parent(s). Substitutions shall be recorded on the posted menu and menus shall be retained at the Center for six (6) months. It was determined based on observations that there were no Menus posted of all meals and snacks served as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will list all of the current week's meals and snacks and all substitutions on the menu and keep past menus on file for six months and will implement a system to monitor this.

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2026

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed completed on this date.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records that fire drills were not conducted since April 2026 and tornado and lock down drills were not conducted since July, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2026

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **N/A**

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Met**

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(d) requires that each vehicle have a functioning heating system. It was determined based on observations that MFSAB tag #EYU281 did not have functioning heat or air as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that the heater is functioning appropriately.

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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 - The Consultant discussed with the Director that all crib sheets should be tight-fitting as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2026

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 17

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 7

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/26/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/21/2026

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 9 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/09/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 10 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/22/2026

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Staff # 11 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/15/2026

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Staff # 14 Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/24/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Staff # 15 Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/24/2026

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided 12 files for employees hired since last visit.

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

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on a review of records that four Staff members did not have current and valid First Aid and CPR on file within the first 45 days of employment. as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2026

Recited on 8/19/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) 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: a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) 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; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) 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); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on a review of records that two staff members did not have health and safety orientation training within 90 days of employment as required.

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: 9/18/2026

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 the Staff member primarily responsible for handling food did not have four hours of food nutrition, planning, preparation, serving, dish washing, and food storage on file as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 9/18/2026

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.

The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation Visit:

Facility

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 5/28/2026

Corrected on 8/19/2026

.25(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed bleach solution inaccessible to children on this date.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 5/28/2026

Corrected on 8/19/2026

.15(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed current Infant's Feeding Plans and Staff abiding by Infant's Feeding Plan as required.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/28/2026

Corrected on 8/19/2026

.17(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed proper diapering and Staff stated proper diapering as required.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 5/28/2026

Corrected on 8/19/2026

.30(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed Infants sleeping on their backs and Staff stated proper knowledge of SIDS and safe sleeping.