



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: 7/16/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:00 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

CCLC-48159

The Learning Academy

428 Picric Street Brunswick, GA 31520 Glynn County
(912) 342-8793 maryashaw@bellsouth.net

Regional Consultant

Jerica Davis

Phone: (478) 314-9452

Fax: (478) 314-9443

jerica.davis@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Kimberly Stoy

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.
07/16/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/31/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/18/2024	TA Follow Up	NA	

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	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	9	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	B	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C	Three Year Olds	1	14	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	E	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	12	C	29	C	NA	NA	TV
Main	F		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	Not In Use

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 48

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	24	C
Main	Playground B	37	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
2	13	10	15	16	0	32

Comments

The visit report was reviewed with the Director on this date.

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:

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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(Findings Report)

Date: 7/16/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:00 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

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Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a MV:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/13/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/18/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires 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. It was determined based on observation that the small count in classroom B had peeling vinyl that posed a potential hazard. Additionally, the small couch in classroom C had peeling vinyl and exposed foam that posed a potential hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025

Prior Visits: 03/23/2022, 01/18/2022

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

Met

Comment

Swimming rules discussed.

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/13/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/18/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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(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 the following items were in need of repair:

-In classroom C, there was peeling green paint on the far left wall and on the wall near the entry door that posed a potential hazard.

-In the restroom between classrooms B and C, the exhaust fan cover was hanging and was not secured and in good repair.

-In the restroom of classroom D, the exhaust fan cover was hanging and was not secured and in good repair.

-In the restroom of classroom D, the light was not working and was in need of repair.

-In classroom D, there was peeling paint on the far right wall.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025**Prior Visits: 08/11/2022****591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**

Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/13/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Records Reviewed: 9**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/18/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety**Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/13/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/18/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.13(2) requires Center Staff to obtain written permission from Parents in advance of the child's participation in any field trip and such permission must be signed and dated by a Parent. It was determined based on a review of records that five of 10 children did not have a completed parent permission form on file for the field trip completed on July 15, 2025 to Glynn Place Cinemas.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center Staff will have and use a system to obtain written field trip permission in advance and ensure the permission is signed and dated by the responsible person.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that Center Staff have emergency medical information on each child who goes on a field trip that includes allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications required to be taken on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and phone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility the Center uses in the area where the Center is located, and the telephone numbers where the parent can be reached. The emergency medical information shall be left at the Center as well as taken on the trip in the possession of the adult in charge of the trip. Please ensure that all emergency medical forms are completely filled in and signed by the parent.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025

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

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

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/13/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/18/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Please ensure that children be placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row. Please ensure children are placed head to toe to help reduce the spread of germs.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/13/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/18/2025

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

"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)(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 a review of records that staff member # 1, staff member # 3, and staff member # 5 had a current Criminal Background Check determination that was not ported electronically before employment as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will complete the provided affidavit form to 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 complete all steps to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Met

Comment

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. Additionally, programs must have at least one person with current First Aid and CPR training in each classroom at all times.

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/13/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/18/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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.