



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: 3/25/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 3:40 PM

CCLC-25589

Excell Preparatory Center

5105 Salem Road Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County
(770) 322-5210

Special Investigations Unit Lead

Tasha McDonald

Phone: (770) 344-3353

Fax: (678) 891-5601

tasha.mcdonald@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Colette Bolds

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.
03/25/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
03/17/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/10/2026	Initial-TA	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-1st Rt		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main	B- 2nd Rt-Infants	Infants and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	C- 3rd Rt- 1 y/o		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	D- 4th Rt- 1 y/o	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	E-5th Rt- 2 y/o	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	17	C	20	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	F-6th Right-2 y/o	Two Year Olds and Four Year Olds	3	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	G-1st Left- 3 y/o	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	19	C	25	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	H- 2nd Lft- 3 y/o	Three Year Olds	3	21	C	24	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	I- 3rd Lft-4 y/o	Four Year Olds	1	16	C	17	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	J-Back Hall-4 y/o	GA PreK	1	14	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	K-Back Hall-5 y/o		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	L-Back Hall-6y/o	GA PreK	1	16	C	18	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	M-Back Hall-End-7+	GA PreK	1	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	N-Cafeteria-5-12y/o		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 253

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 146

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 253

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

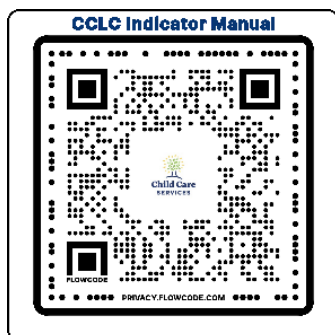
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A: Infant - 2 year playground	55	C

Main	B: 3-4 Year Old Playground	23	C
Main	Back Playground	48	C
Main	C: School Age Playground	47	C
Main	Front Paved Playground	7	C
Main	Left Playground	19	C
Main	Right Playground	44	C

Comments

03-25-2026: The consultant observed picture day at the facility.

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>.

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!



**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

Summary Report

Date: 3/25/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 3:40 PM

CCLC-25589

Excell Preparatory Center

5105 Salem Road Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County
(770) 322-5210

Special Investigations Unit Lead

Tasha McDonald

Phone: (770) 344-3353

Fax: (678) 891-5601

tasha.mcdonald@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Colette Bolds

Mailing Address

Same

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

		Facility
--	--	----------

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

Corrected on 3/25/2026

.26(9) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed the center to be free of hazards on this date.

		Staff Records
--	--	---------------

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2026

Corrected on 3/25/2026

.33(3)(a)-(k) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed the center to have documentation of completing the health and safety orientation training on file on this date.

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 observation, the following required Staff did not have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage, as required:

- Staff #6, hired July 1, 2019

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Staff #6 will obtain an additional one clock hour of training in food nutrition, as she has already completed three hours on this date.

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2026

Recited on 3/25/2026