



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: 5/4/2026

VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 5:00 PM

CCLC-17624

Quilla Early Learning Academy

109 Center Drive Brunswick, GA 31520 Glynn County
 (912) 267-0100

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

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connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Emily Patterson

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.
05/04/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/13/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/22/2025	Monitoring Visit	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	100		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	150	One Year Olds	2	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Diapering, TV, Nap, Outside, Transitioning
Main	200	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	17	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch, Centers, Music, Nap, Outside
Main	250	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	18	C	23	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning, Circle Time, Story, Lunch
Main	300	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	18	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside, Lunch, Nap, Centers
Main	350	Three Year Olds	2	15	C	22	C	31	C	Nap, Lunch, Circle Time, Centers
Main	400	GA PreK	2	19	C	22	C	31	C	Centers, Nap, Lunch, Free Play
Main	450	GA PreK	1	17	C	22	C	31	C	Nap, Art, Lunch
Main	500	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	18	C	26	C	37	C	Nap, Lunch, Music, Art
Main	550	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	19	C	59	C	82	C	Nap, Transitioning, Outside, Lunch
Main	cafeteria		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	Not In Use

	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 270	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 331
Total # Children this Date: 142	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 270	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 331

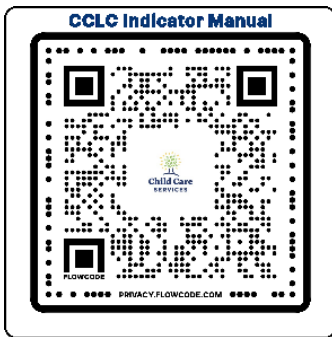
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Large back playground	125	C
Main	Left side playground	44	C
Main	Right back playground	53	C
Main	Right front playground	24	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	12	24	38	38	44	47

Comments

The Consultant discussed with the Center Director and emailed a copy via docusign.

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!



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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - The provider will ensure that the Center keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas (classrooms 150, 350, and 550).

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

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 green sofa located in classroom 150 is exposing thread posing as a choking hazard. Additionally, the red and blue metal chairs located in classroom 250 is chipping paint.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that the hamster cage located in classroom 350 was not secured and poses as a tipping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Comment

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Parent authorizations 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 observation that the following hazards were observed;

---Plastic bags, a basket with bags of baby wipes, and a basket of rubber gloves were stored in the child bathroom in classroom 200 and accessible to the 2-year-old children.

---A drawer containing packs of baby wipes were stored in the child bathroom of classroom 250. Additionally, a box of gloves were stored in classroom 250 and accessible to 2 and 3-year-old children.

---A box of rubber gloves, 2 packs of baby wipes, a staff purse, a staff drinking cup, a swiffer sweeper, a mop, a broom, and a dust pan, were stored in classroom 350 and accessible to the 3-year-old children.

---A box of rubber gloves and hand sanitizer labeled keep out of reach of children were stored in classroom 550 and accessible to the 4 and 5-year-old children.

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: 5/4/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that a fan was placed within reach of 3-year-old children in classroom 350. Additionally, the fan cord was plugged into an electrical outlet and dangling over a 3-year-old child laying on a cot during nap time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

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

Not Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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 the fence between the left side playground and large back playground had a four inch gap between the top of the chain link and the top support bar. Additionally, 1 green metal fence post located on the left side playground, used to anchor the fence to the ground had sharp edges and rust. Furthermore, 3 green metal fence post located on the large back playground, used to anchor the fence to the ground had sharp edges.

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.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed;

Left Side Playground:

---The blue adhesive strip located at the bottom of the purple and yellow crawl through was detached and accessible to the 1 and 2-year-old children.

Large Back Playground:

---Metal chairs located under the back awning were rusted.

---The basket ball goal did not have a net as required.

---Eight of 8 S hooks were rusting.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

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 thorny vines were growing from the outside to the inside of the large back playground. Additionally, black landscaping paper was not covered and poses as a tripping hazard on the large back playground and the right playground. Furthermore, a bag of potting soil with fertilizer was stored under the awning of the large back playground and within reach of the children.

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: 5/14/2026

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

591-1-1-.15(2)(f) requires that food for infants or children less than one (1) year of age be cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller and food for toddlers shall be cut into pieces one-half inch or smaller to prevent choking. It was determined based on observation that bread served for lunch on May 4, 2026 for 1 and 2-year-old children were not cut into no larger than a half inch size as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that food for infants and children less than one (1) year of age is cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller and food for toddlers is cut into pieces one-half inch or smaller to prevent choking.

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.10(6) requires Center Staff to keep any items which might harm a child out of a child's reach. It was determined based on observation that a 4 ounce tube of Butt Paste labeled keep out of reach of children were stored within reach of 2-year-old children in the bathroom of classroom 200.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any harmful item and provide instruction to staff. that includes identification and storage of hazardous items and procedures for keeping classrooms and other children's areas free of hazards.

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that a 3-year-old child placed a soiled diaper in the trash can in classroom 350 and did not wash hands.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that a staff member did not wash hands after a diaper change in classroom 150.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(1) requires Personnel to obtain specific written authorization from the child's physician or parent in order to dispense prescription or non-prescription medications, except for first aid. Such authorization will include when applicable, date; full name of the child; name of the medication; prescription number, if any; dosage; the dates to be given; the time of day to be dispensed; and signature of parent. It was determined based on observation that medication was administered September 18, 2025 through September 26, 2025 and the name of the medication and prescription number was not recorded on the Authorization for Medication form as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to obtain and review parental authorizations to ensure the authorization contains complete information. The designated person(s) will monitor daily.

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.20(2) requires that written authorization to dispense medication is limited to two weeks unless otherwise prescribed by a physician or authorized under Georgia law. Medication shall only be dispensed out of its original container which must be labeled with the child's name or as authorized under Georgia law. It was determined based on observation that prescription number 309890 was administered from August 11, 2025 through September 17, 2025, prescription number 323485 was administered from September 29, 2025 through October 27, 2025, and prescription number 345016 was administered from October 28, 2025 through May 1, 2026, and not limited to 2 weeks as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train all Staff on the medication requirements. The designated person(s) will monitor the dispensing of medications.

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date (Communicable Disease and Consumer Products Report).

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety**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)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****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.

Comment

The provider stated no infants are enrolled.

Staff Records

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided 14 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Technical Assistance****Correction Deadline: 5/31/2026****Corrected on 5/4/2026**

.14(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. All staff employed more than 45 days has obtained the required adult and pediatric CPR and first aid.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.14(3) - The provider will ensure that the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. Goggles were missing from the first aid kits on both vehicles.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. - New - The provider will ensure that the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices (Staff # 14 and 15).

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2026**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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.