



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
3 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 2/23/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 4:00 PM
Study

CCLC-52204

AMAZING BEGINNINGS ACADEMY

551 Highway 138 W Jonesboro, GA 30238 Clayton County
(770) 471-2222

Regional Consultant

Nadia Bernard

Phone: (404) 670-9398

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nadia.bernard@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.
02/23/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
02/23/2026	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Deficient	
11/18/2025	Complaint 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-1	Infants	1	3	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering
Main	A-2		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B-3		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C-4	Two Year Olds	1	3	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch
Main	D- Cafe		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-5		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F-6		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	G-7	Four Year Olds	1	3	C	25	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	H-8	GA PreK	2	7	C	22	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	I-9		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 167

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 16

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 167

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

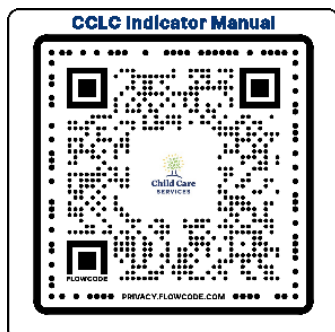
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Right	52	C
Main	B- Left	80	C
Main	C- Rear	38	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	0	3	3	7	0	7

Comments

A Verifying Completion of Background Check Video Units was left with the Director, Ms. Douglas.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 03/09/2026



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.dec.al.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!



Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

Comment

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

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

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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 in Room C-4 Neosporin was located in an accessible unlocked drawer near the lunch table. It was further observed that staff bags in Room H-8 were located in an unlocked cabinet.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2026

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 11/28/2025

Corrected on 2/23/2026

.26(4) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the fence to be in good repair no gaps were observed.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

Corrected on 2/23/2026

.26(8) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed 6 inches of resilient surface surrounding the fall zones.

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 there were active ant beds on playground A and Playground C.

Correction Deadline: 2/27/2026

Recited on 2/23/2026

Food Service

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

Met

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

Comment

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025

Corrected on 2/23/2026

.10(4) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed proper diapering in Room A-1.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025

Corrected on 2/23/2026

.17(7)(a) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. Proper handwashing was observed.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025

Corrected on 2/23/2026

.17(8) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed proper staff handwashing.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

Finding

591-1-1-.21(1)(r) requires Center policies and procedures include a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children. It was determined based on a review of records that the center did not have a current updated policies and procedures that included a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age.

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2026

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 documents that the center did not complete fire drills for December 2025.

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2026

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

Observed all required posted notices.

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

Discussed reporting requirements.

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

Corrected on 2/23/2026

.36(7)(d)1. - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed first check signatures for the reviewed transportation documents.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025

Corrected on 2/23/2026

.36(7)(d)2. - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed second check signatures for reviewed transportation documents.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

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.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on observation that the mats in Room C-4 and G-7 measured 1 and half inches.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025

Corrected on 2/23/2026

.30(2) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. Staff stated proper sleep policies and procedures.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 10

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/17/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/22/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 5 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 5 did not have a current Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the center. Staff # 5 Comprehensive Records Check Determination expired on January 21, 2025.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2026

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)**Met****Comment**

Director provided four files for employees hired since last visit.

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

Evidence observed of 50% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

Comment

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

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

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2025

Corrected on 2/23/2026

.33(3)(a)-(k) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. Staff # 2 completed their health and safety orientation training.

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 Staff # 9 did not have evidence of completing their four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 4 and Staff # 8 did not complete the 10 hours of annual training for the year 2025.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. requires the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices. It was determined based on a review of records that all applicable staff did not complete at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2026

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.

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

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.