



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: 8/27/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:50 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-36268
Early Learning Scholars
 3534 Clarkston Industrial Blvd. Clarkston, GA 30021 DeKalb
 County
 (404) 298-1085 IMtara319@gmail.com

Regional Consultant
 Roslyn Williams
 Phone: (770) 357-7020
 Fax: (770) 357-7019
 roslyn.williams@decal.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.
08/27/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/25/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
02/13/2025	Incident 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	A: 1R	Infants	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B: 2R	One Year Olds	2	6	C	13	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	C: 2L Preschool 3	Three Year Olds	3	7	C	22	C	31	C	Transitioning
Main	D: 1L Preschool 2	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	18	C	25	C	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 63					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 228					
Modular	L PreK 2	GA PreK	3	16	C	30	C	42	C	Transitioning
Modular	L Prek 4	GA PreK	2	8	C	23	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Modular	PreK 1	GA PreK	2	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Modular	R PreK 3		0	0	C	28	C	40	C	Not In Use
Modular	R PreK 5	GA PreK	2	9	C	23	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 228					
Total # Children this Date: 78			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 188			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 228				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Large	81	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	7	7	17	62	0	53

Comments

Visit completed

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!



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 8/27/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:50 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-36268

Early Learning Scholars

3534 Clarkston Industrial Blvd. Clarkston, GA 30021 DeKalb
County
(404) 298-1085 IMtara319@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Roslyn Williams

Phone: (770) 357-7020

Fax: (770) 357-7019

roslyn.williams@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a LS:

Activities and Equipment

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 three knobs were missing on the play stove in Room C and one knob was missing on the play stove in PreK 5. It was further determined that in Room D, the large alphabet rug and the yellow pillow had stains on them.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 9/5/2025

Prior Visits: 09/29/2022

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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 a container of bleach was stored behind the art easel and a vacuum cleaner near the window and accessible to children in PreK 5.

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: 8/27/2025

Prior Visits: 09/29/2022

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Routine fence maintenance was discussed,

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Prior Visits: 05/31/2022

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(2) - Please ensure that feeding plans are updated on a regular basis.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Prior Visits: 08/26/2024

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Met

Comment

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

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(a-o) -D Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center. Also discussed to ensure 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.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2025

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2025

Prior Visits: 09/18/2023

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.29(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All Required Report procedures were completed.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 - Please ensure that all crib sheets remain tight-fitting.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2025

Prior Visits: 05/31/2022

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected. on this date.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2025

Prior Visits: 05/31/2022

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2025

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.24(1) -) Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2025

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2025

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.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2025

Prior Visits: 02/13/2025

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.32(7) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant observed that children were supervised at all times.