



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: 1/30/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:45 AM **Departure:** 5:00 PM

CCLC-898

La Petite Academy - Panola

3079 Panola Rd. Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County
(770) 987-4582 7429@lapetite.com

Regional Consultant

Maryn Accord

Phone: (404) 591-6031

Fax:

maryn.accord@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.
01/30/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/12/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
11/15/2024	Complaint 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-1st Right- 2 y/o	Infants and One Year Olds	2	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap,Feeding
Main	B-2nd -Right-1-2 y/o	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	14	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch
Main	C- 3rd Right-Infant	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	D-Bck-Rt- 4 y/o	GA PreK	2	15	C	22	C	30	C	Transitioning,Outside,Lunch
Main	E- Back Lft- 4 y/o	GA PreK	2	16	C	20	C	28	C	Transitioning,Lunch,Outside
Main	F-Center- 3 y/o	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	22	C	30	C	Transitioning,Nap,Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 127					
Total # Children this Date: 66					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 127					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back Playground	101	C
Main	Right Playground	18	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
9	6	9	19	34	2	19

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

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.decga.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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

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.

591-1-1.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

591-1-1.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Not Met

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 upon observation that the following areas of fencing had gaps measuring above three and a half inches fencing causing potential entrapment hazards:

Back Playground:

- A gap measuring five-and-one-half inches from the ground to the fence located in the front left corner by the storage shed.
- A gap measuring four inches from the ground to the fence located along the back fencing

Right Playground:

- A gap measuring four-and-one-half inches between the chain link fence and brick wall located in the left corner.
- A gap measuring four inches between the chain link fence and chain link entrance gate.

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: 2/28/2025

Health and Hygiene

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

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

Corrected on 1/30/2025

.10(4) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed proper sanitizing and disinfecting of the changing surface after diapering as required on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

Corrected on 1/30/2025

.17(7) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed proper hand washing of children after diapering as required on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

Corrected on 1/30/2025

.17(8) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed proper handwashing of Staff after diapering as required on this date.

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

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **N/A**

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Correction Deadline: 12/12/2024

Corrected on 1/30/2025

.11(1) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant observed Staff providing appropriate interactions and a positive learning environment as required on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

Corrected on 1/30/2025

.36(7)(c)2. - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed completed transportation logs as required on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based upon observation that 10 out of 10 cribs located in Classroom A- 1st Right had crib sheets that were not tight-fitting on this date as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2025

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that personnel records contain all information and documentation as required.

Correction Deadline: 2/4/2025

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.31(2)(a) requires the Center to ensure there is a designated teacher/lead caregiver for each group of children. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that each classroom must have a designated lead teacher/caregiver who meets the minimum lead teacher/caregiver qualifications as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2025

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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.