



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: 9/4/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:35 PM

CCLC-35911

Livingston Academy

320 Huntington St. Covington, GA 30016 Newton County
(770) 385-4008 livingstonacademy757@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

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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.
09/04/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/09/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/15/2024	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	A/1L		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B/2L	One Year Olds	2	5	C	9	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap, Outside
Main	C/3L	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap, Outside
Main	D/4L		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E/1R	Infants	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play
Main	F/2R	Three Year Olds	2	0	C	19	C	26	C	Outside
Main	G/3R	GA PreK	2	10	C	23	C	33	C	Nap, Outside
Main	H/4R		0	0	C	24	C	34	C	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 125			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 29			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 125			Building @25 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations	

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG/A/LFront	33	C
Main	PG/B/LBack	68	C
Main	PG/C/RBack	91	C
Main	PG/D/RFront	22	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	7	9	0	120	0	26

Comments

Background checks were reviewed. The consultant was unable to provide a copy of the visit due to computer issues. The consultant did review the visit with the director. The report was email to the center on September 5, 2025.

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!



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(Findings Report)

Date: 9/4/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

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The following information is associated with a MV:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 11

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - The consultant discussed with the director 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 in the school age classroom. Please ensure that all furniture is in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(3) -The consultant discussed that equipment and furniture be placed so as to permit the children's freedom of movement and to minimize danger of accident and collision. Discussed the stacked chairs in the school age room.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

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

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Comment

Swimming rules discussed.

Facility

Staff # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

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)

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the director that the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin. Discussed the stain ceiling tile and rust on metal toilet paper holder in the school age bathroom,

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

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 on observation on the left front playground one panel of the wrought iron metal fence facing the driveway, at the corner of the building was completely loose and not attached to the metal corner pole at the top and bottom.

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: 9/4/2025

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 there was chipping paint on the following equipment on the front right side playground, on the legs of red and and blue caboose, the red body of the red metal car, the Old 49er and front of the blue boat.

- On the second left playground on the left side there was chipping paint on the yellow merry-go-round and there was cracked plastic swing guards on three swings with rust exposed.

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: 9/14/2025

Prior Visits: 03/05/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation there was one to three inches of measurable wood chips underneath the swings on the right back playground. The fall zone of the swings and the climbing equipment on the right and left playground were compacted with grassy areas.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2025

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 and active ant bed was observed on the left side of the climbing structure on the second playground on the left side and there was piece of black liner material exposed on the back side of the climbing structure and one landscape timber was deteriorating in the back of the climbing equipment, creating a potential tripping hazard.

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: 9/4/2025

Prior Visits: 09/12/2022

Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 11

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

Comment

Please ensure trash cans containing organic waste have a lid.

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

Records Reviewed: 11

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(4) - • CCLC Policies: 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.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at:

<https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2025**Safety**

Staff # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

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

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Comment

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) - Please add the medical authorization to the vehicle emergency forms on the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/5/2025**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

Staff # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Staff # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

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

Not Met

Comment

Director provided 4 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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 review staff member # 4 did not have a valid current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file due to lapse of employment from the child care center that lasted for more 180 days (6 months).

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will 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. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)2. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee when there has been a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 calendar days (6 months) or longer. It was determined based on review that staff member # 4 did not have a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file after a lapse of employment from the child care center for more than 6 months.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for Directors, Employees or Provisional Employees Employee's when there has been a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 calendar days (6 months) or longer. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

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: 10/4/2025

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

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on review staff # 7 did not obtain the health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 10/4/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. - New - 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: 10/4/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(6) - New - Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2025

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

Staff # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

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.