



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: 6/24/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-35870

Gainesville Academy

1310 Lanier Valley Drive Gainesville, GA 30504 Hall County
(678) 971-5505

Regional Consultant

Jermecia Moore-Fulton

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jermecia.moore-fulton@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.
06/24/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
06/10/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
06/10/2026	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	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 and One Year Olds	1	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap,Floor Play,Feeding
Main	B: 2R	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C: 3R	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	D: 4R		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E: 3L	Three Year Olds	2	15	C	30	C	42	C	Lunch
Main	F: 2L	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	G: 1L		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 151						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 163				
Total # Children this Date: 59			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 151			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 163				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG A Right	33	C
Main	PG B Back	16	C
Main	PG C Left	57	C

Comments

Updates and Reminders

-Please ensure to complete all temporary closures by 8 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, holidays, etc.) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily when you are not caring for children for one day or more. Please be sure to SAVE the report prior to exiting.

-Please ensure to complete rechecks for Criminal Records Checks at least 90 days before the five year expiration. Suggestion: Check monthly or sooner to ensure that staff's Criminal Records Checks are not about to expire.

-Incident Reports are to be submitted via DECAL KOALA with all signed staff statements for staff and the Director.

-All amendments are required to be electronically entered in DECAL KOALA.

-Please ensure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account.

-Please ensure that director and staff responsible for food preparation completes the four (4) hours of nutrition training as soon as possible but within the first year of employment.

- Staff Training: -Initial Program Orientation- All Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

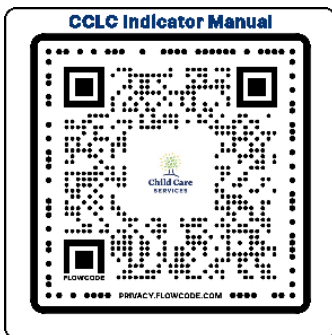
- Annual Training: Effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

- First Aid and CPR:

Effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. Programs must also have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

-For centers conducting or planning on conducting transportation, please remember that the transportation training must be completed prior to participating in transportation and renewed every two years for anyone checking the vehicle, chaperoning on a trip, and signing the checklist, including the director/provider. Please ensure that directors/providers ensure that they also complete the transportation training upon being hired at the center. *Please ensure to mark/indicate when children are loading and unloading and do a physical first and second check (and document by signing) of vehicles used to transport children on transportation documents.

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 Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

	Facility
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591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/10/2026

Corrected on 6/24/2026

.25(13) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant did not observe any hazards to be accessible to children in room F-2L on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/10/2026

Corrected on 6/24/2026

.25(3) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed the walls and the wall adjacent to the toilet in the first bathroom in room F-2L to now be free of patches of peeling paint.

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 6/10/2026

Corrected on 6/24/2026

.26(4) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed the gate on Playground B-Back to the HVAC units to be closed.

Correction Deadline: 6/20/2026

Corrected on 6/24/2026

.26(6) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed the steps and platform of the playground structure to be free of hazards and the adult sized metal bench to be free of hazards on Playground C.

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 the following tripping hazards were observed on this date:

-PG A Right- tree roots were observed exposed within the mulched play area beside the play structure and below the tree.

-PG C-left - tree roots were observed exposed under the three trees and within the rubber mulch under the play structure.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove, cover or mark the tree roots from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 7/1/2026

Recited on 6/24/2026

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Comment

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed proper supervision: responding promptly, bathrooms and playgrounds.

Correction Deadline: 6/10/2026

Corrected on 6/24/2026

.32(7) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed staff to be attentive and providing active supervision on this date.