



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: 10/14/2025 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:00 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-54562

Alphabet Kids Early Care & Learning Academy, LLC
3198 Jodeco Road McDonough, GA 30253 Henry County
(770) 570-8986

Regional Consultant
Dynesia Lynn
Phone: ()
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Joint with: Yolanda Marable

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.
10/14/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/29/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
06/26/2025	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
Building 1	A	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	11	NC	10	NC	NA	NA	Free Play
Building 1	B - 6wks - 9 mths	Infants	1	2	C	6	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Building 1	C - 3's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	13	C	NA	NA	Clean Up, Circle Time
Building 1	Classroom F	GA PreK	2	16	C	28	C	NA	NA	Centers
Building 1	D - 4's - 12 years old.		0	0	C	35	C	49	C	
Building 1	E - 1's - 2's		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 116			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 40			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 116				

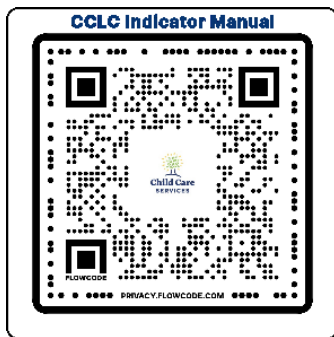
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building 1	Playground A - 6 wks- 2 years	18	C
Building 1	Playground B - 3 -12 years old	103	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	4	10	10	16	0	14

Comments

All required documents were observed on this date as required.
Exit conference discussing the Monitoring visit that was conducted

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.decal.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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

Date: 10/14/2025 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

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 the following rooms had hazardous items accessible to children.

* Room A contained a yellow sofa with tears, eleven chairs and four highchairs stacked posing a hazard.

* Room C:

- The play stove had a cracked oven screen.
- Fourteen blue chairs were stacked, and two chairs were placed on top of a table.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Evening Care

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

Met

Comment

No evening care hours provided

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that Room A was out of ratio at 1:11, with one staff member supervising seven 2-year-olds, one 3-year-old, and three 1-year-olds exceeding the required 1:10 ratio.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

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 the following hazards were observed:

Classroom A

- *The staff bathroom was unlocked and contained a toilet brush and plunger.
- A box of gloves was on the table.
- The right side cabinet was unlocked and contained a garbage bag.
- The closet door was unlocked and contained Lysol and Off spray.

*The sink cabinet in Room E was unlocked and contained a bottle of bleach.

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: 10/14/2025

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the director the importance of maintaining the playground equipment and landscape to ensure they are free from hazardous items.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2025

Food Service

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2)(f) requires that food for infants or children less than one (1) year of age be cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller and food for toddlers shall be cut into pieces one-half inch or smaller to prevent choking. It was determined based on observation, that three 1-year-old children, seven 2-year-old children eleven 3-year-old children and seventeen 4-year-old children were served whole meatballs for lunch, posing a choking hazard. Additionally, the meatballs and peaches were not cut into smaller pieces for children under 4-years-old, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that food for infants and children less than one (1) year of age is cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller and food for toddlers is cut into pieces one-half inch or smaller to prevent choking.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Health and Hygiene

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the staff in Room A did not disinfect the diapering pad after changing a child as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.10(9) requires Center Staff to not use the area used for diapering for food preparation and to keep the diapering area clear of formulas, food, food utensils and food preparation items. It was determined by observation that in Room B a pacifier was lying on the changing table mat posing a risk of cross contamination.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will be trained, specified areas will be available for food preparation and placement of food-related items, and the director will monitor.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that the staff in Room A failed to wash their hands after diapering a child as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

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) - 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.

Correction Deadline: 10/19/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(r) - New - 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/Regulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 10/19/2025

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on review of records that staff #2 hired on December 4 ,2023 did not complete the two hour transportation training as required. Additionally, staff #2 completed the first check signature on the school transportation form during the week of September 29,2025 through October 3, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/04/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(2)(a)-(n) - Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 10/15/2025

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: 11/13/2025

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

Finding

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that Room A was out of ratio at 1:11, with one staff member supervising seven 2-year-olds, one 3-year-old, and three 1-year-olds exceeding the required 1:10 ratio.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that the following classrooms were unattended by staff.

*The staff in Room A left the classroom unattended during nap time to get blankets from room E.

*The staff in Room C left the classroom unattended when they walked to the front door of the building to retrieve a child.

*The staff in Room B were not seated with the two 1-year-olds during lunch, as required for adequate supervision.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025