



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: 8/22/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:20 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM

CCLC-894

La Petite Academy - Lee

1806 Lee Rd. Lithia Springs, GA 30122 Douglas County
(770) 732-8827 7415@lapetite.com

Lead Consultant

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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.
08/22/2025	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/12/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/24/2024	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	Room A - 1L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	15	C	15	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room B - 2nd Left	GA PreK	2	17	C	33	C	33	C	Centers
Main	Room C - 3rd Left	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers, Free Play
Main	Room D - 3rd Right	GA PreK	2	20	C	31	C	31	C	Centers, Clean Up
Main	Room E - 2nd Right	Infants	2	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Feeding, Nap
Main	Room F - 1st Right	One Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Diapering, Circle Time
Main	Room G - Front Center		0	0	C	21	C	21	C	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 146						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 146				
Total # Children this Date: 79						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 146				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Area A - Infant	3	C
Main	Area B - Toddler Yard	17	C
Main	Area C - Lower Yard	56	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
8	14	18	23	42	13	26

Comments

Discussed Rule changes effective July 1, 2025. The Investigation was not completed on the day of the visit.

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.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!



Summary Report

Date: 8/22/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 8:20 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM
Study

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The following information is associated with a CI/LS:

Activities and Equipment**591-1-1-.03 Activities****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.03(2) - Discussed that current Lesson Plans need to be available in all rooms.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2025

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.12 - Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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 child sized furniture (couches) in Room C-3rd Right, Room F-1st Right and Room A-1st Left had multiple tears and exposed foam.

* The floor mat in Room F-1st Right had several tears.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director stated that will order new furniture and remove the damaged items. The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2025

Prior Visits: 10/24/2024

Recited on 8/22/2025

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**N/A****Comment**

591-1-1-.35 - Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records****Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.08 - Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(4) - Discussed that all bathrooms need to have functioning exhaust.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2025**Prior Visits: 08/23/2023****591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 6/20/2025****Prior Visits: 06/12/2025****Corrected on 8/22/2025****.19(1) - Previous citation was corrected as the appropriate number of children were observed in all rooms.****591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.25 - Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(12) - Discussed that the air purifier in Room C-3rd Left needs to be made inaccessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2025**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 accessible to children in care:

- * Room A-1L- Sanis airfreshner, eye drops, several tubes with diaper cream and a packet with Alka Seltzer were stored in unlocked drawers.
- * Room B-2nd Left- teachers' purses, air freshners, cleaning solution, sunscreen, hand cream and staplers were in an unlocked cabinet.
- * Room C-3rd Left- a teacher's purse was stored in an unlocked closet.
- * Room D-3rd Right- a Sanis air freshner was on a low shelf.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Staff removed the hazardous items and the Director will ensure that the locks are working on all cabinets and drawers. 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: 8/22/2025**Prior Visits: 10/24/2024****Recited on 8/22/2025****Correction Deadline: 6/27/2025****Prior Visits: 10/24/2024****Corrected on 8/22/2025****.25(3) - Previous citation was corrected as all areas appeared clean and in good repair.****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(8) - Discussed that all outlets not in use need to be covered.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2025**Prior Visits: 10/24/2024****591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(8) - Discussed that the swings and the five feet high slide needed at least six inches of mulch in the fall zones and the slides that were between three and five feet high needed at least three inches of mulch in the fall zones.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2025**Prior Visits: 08/23/2023**

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 that the trash can on Area C-Lower Yard was overflowing with trash with plastic cups being on the ground and no lid on the container. Additionally, there was a play mat with tears that was not designed for outdoor use and had absorbed rain water and dirt under the small slides of Area B-Toddler Yard. There were also several boxes with papers and broken materials on the same playground that were wet from the rain.

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: 8/22/2025

Prior Visits: 03/28/2023

Recited on 8/22/2025

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/19/2025

Prior Visits: 10/24/2024

Corrected on 8/22/2025

.15(2) - Previous citation was corrected as Infant Feeding Plans were observed for all children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(2) - Discussed that the Infant Feeding Plans need to be updated every couple of months.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2025

Prior Visits: 10/24/2024

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.18 - Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

591-1-1-.10 - Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/27/2025

Prior Visits: 06/12/2025

Corrected on 8/22/2025

.10(1) - Previous citation was corrected as the Room A-1L was used for potty-trained two and three-year-old children and the diapering if needed was done in the bathroom.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(4) - Please ensure that the diapering surface in Room E-2nd Right is smooth. It appeared that the surface was damaged by the cleaning agent and was not smooth as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2025

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

Not Met

Comment

591-1-1-.17 - Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Finding

591-1-1-.17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that children's hands were not washed after diapering in Room F-1st Right and Room E-2nd Right.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The program will ensure that all newly hired staff in the diaper rooms is trained on appropriate handwashing. The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2025

Prior Visits: 06/12/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.17(8) - Discussed that staff needs to wash hands immediately after diapering even if gloves were used.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2025

Prior Visits: 06/12/2025

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

N/A

Comment

591-1-1-.20 - The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.21(3) - Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.29 - Discussed reporting requirements.

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals**

N/A

Comment

591-1-1-.05 - Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.11 - Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

N/A

Comment

591-1-1-.13 - Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.36 - A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

591-1-1-.36 - Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment

591-1-1-.36 - Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Comment

591-1-1-.36 - The vehicle was checked for compliance. Proper restraints were observed and discussed with the director.

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

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.30 - Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

591-1-1-.30 - The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 21

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 6

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/21/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/10/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/21/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/07/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/19/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

591-1-1-.09(1) - Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

591-1-1-.14 - Evidence observed of 50% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

Comment

591-1-1-.14 - Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.14(3) - Discussed that the First aid kits on the premises and on the vehicles need to have all required items. A list from the agency's website was e-mailed to the Director.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2025**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(2)(a)-(n) - Discussed that signed Initial Staff Orientation needs to be in each file.

Correction Deadline: 8/23/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on review of records that five Staff did not have evidence of annual training for 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2025

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

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.31 - Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Correction Deadline: 6/13/2025

Prior Visits: 06/12/2025

Corrected on 8/22/2025

.31(2)(b)3.(i) - Previous citation was corrected as the incorrect rule was used for no staff files.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.32 - Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.32 - Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Comment

591-1-1-.32 - Discussed combining children of mixed ages.