



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: 6/9/2026

VisitType: Complaint Investigation &
Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 12:00 PM Departure: 4:35 PM

CCLC-898

La Petite Academy - Panola

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

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.
06/09/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/11/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/09/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	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		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B-2nd -Right-1-2 y/o	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C- 3rd Right-Infant	Infants	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D-Bck-Rt- 4 y/o		0	0	C	22	C	30	C	Not In Use
Main	E- Back Lft- 4 y/o	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	20	C	20	C	28	C	Transitioning
Main	F-Center- 3 y/o	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	14	C	22	C	30	C	Transitioning, Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 127							
Total # Children this Date: 51			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 127							

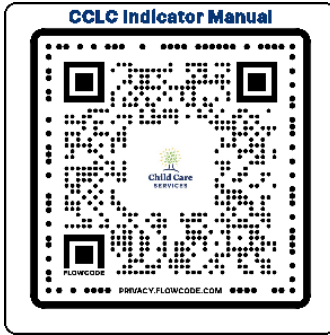
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back Playground	101	C
Main	Right Playground	18	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	9	9	10	8	0	23

Comments

The Consultant evaluated Core Rules on this date.

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.dec.al.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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

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 on this date.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires 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 at the Center. It was determined, based on observation, that peeling paint was present on classroom walls and classroom doors throughout the Center, affecting multiple areas of the facility. It was further determined that the side panel of the sink located in Room B- 2nd Right- 1-2 y/o was in disrepair, with the plastic covering broken off in multiple areas, creating a potential hazard on this date. It was also determined that a sticky residue with dead gnats were present on the bottom shelf of the kitchen refrigerator on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

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 that the resilient surfacing in the fall zone area of the tall yellow slide, located on the Main Back Playground, measured 1 inch in depth, when 6 inches was required. It was further determined that the resilient surfacing in the fall zones areas for the short yellow slide, yellow climbing wall, and red climbing ladder located on the Back Playground measured 1 inch in depth, when 3 inches in depth was required. It was also determined that the resilient surfacing in the fall zone areas for the blue slide and the green slide located on the Right Playground measured 1 inch in depth, when 3 inches in depth was required.

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: 7/24/2026

Recited on 6/9/2026

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.18(2) requires the Center to have a designated space for food preparation separate from rooms used by children and in an area not used for diaper changing. The area shall be kept clean and free of accumulation of dust, dirt, food particles and grease deposits. Food preparation surface areas shall be nonporous with no unsealed cracks or seams. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that all food preparation areas were kept clean, in sanitary condition, and free of food debris as required. The Consultant further discussed that surfaces within the food preparation area must be maintained in good repair to prevent potential health and safety hazards, as required.

Correction Deadline: 6/19/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/11/2025

Corrected on 6/9/2026

.17(7) - Correction of previous citation was observed on this date. The Consultant observed proper hand washing throughout the Center, as required.

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

Met

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed completed on this date.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed.

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

Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Technical Assistance

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. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that crib sheets were routinely monitored and maintained to ensure they were tight-fitting, as required.

Correction Deadline: 6/9/2026

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 17

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/16/2026

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/30/2026

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2025

Corrected on 6/9/2026

.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that every Employee submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site, as required.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2025

Corrected on 6/9/2026

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed every Employee had a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file, as required.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined, based on a review of records, the following Staff did not have biennial training in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment:

- Staff #2, hired March 16, 2026

- Staff #11, hired March 30, 2026

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

Recited on 6/9/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026****Corrected on 6/9/2026**

.33(3)(a)-(k) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed health and safety orientation training on file for Staff, as required.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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.