



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
3 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 7/20/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:00 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-66441
Madison Academy
 795 North Main Street Madison, GA 30650 Morgan County
 (706) 318-5932

Regional Consultant
 Kajora McCoy
 Phone: (678) 239-9361
 Fax:
 kajora.mccoy@dec.al.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.
07/20/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/11/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/07/2025	Initial 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 2yrs	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	17	C	17	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	B 3yrs/4's		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	C Infants	Infants	1	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	D 1yr	One Year Olds	1	9	NC	9	C	NA	NA	Diapering
Main	F- Far Back Right		0	0	C	4	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 48			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Modular	E	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	17	NC	22	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 22			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 49			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 70			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	D 5-12yrs-Back	48	C
Main	A Infants/Infants	11	C
Main	B 1-2yrs	18	C
Main	C 3-4yrs	43	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
8	8	14	8	4	0	18

Comments

The Consultant left Chop, Look, Listen materials with the center.

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.state.ga.us/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.state.ga.us/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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that there were stacked chairs in classroom A 2yrs and classroom D 1yr.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.35(7) - Please ensure that wading pools are emptied when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

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 on this date:

Main A 2yrs

- There was a staff bag on a shelf next to the children's restrooms.
- There was an unlocked cabinet that contained plastic storage bags and fifteen packs of wipes.

Pre-k Building:

- There was a broom, dust pan, and push mop next to the handwashing sink.
- There was a box of gloves and two unlabeled spray bottles containing liquid on top of the mini fridge.
- There were adult scissors on a desk at the back of the classroom.
- There was a bottle of Mielle hair spray and a box of Pure Kick energy packets in a window seal next to the staff desk
- There were cords and a surge protector behind the staff desk where children were playing
- There was a bottle of Tap Water Conditioner and Algae Control on the children's handwashing sink
- There was a first aid kit on top of the children's cubby

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: 7/20/2026

Recited on 7/20/2026

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure that fence gates remain closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2026

Corrected on 7/20/2026

.26(6) - This citation was corrected on this date. Playground equipment was observed to free of hazardous conditions.

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 there was no resilient surfacing under the slide on playground C when six inches 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: 7/30/2026

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 there were discarded equipment next to the stairs on playground C. It was further determined that there were discarded wooden beams near the back of playground D.

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: 7/20/2026

Food Service

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 2/11/2026****Corrected on 7/20/2026****.10(4) - This citation was corrected on this date. Diaper changing pads were observed to be non porous.****591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

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 staff did not wash children's hands after diapering in classroom D 1yr.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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: 7/20/2026**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 staff did not wash hands after diapering in classroom D 1yr.

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: 7/20/2026**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

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

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

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. It was determined based on observation that three of five crib sheets were not tight fitting as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation that infants were placed on their tummies to sleep.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on a review of records that there was not at least one staff person in each classroom with valid and current first aid/CPR on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that the staff:child ratio in the Pre-K building was 1:17 when there were five 3-year-olds, six 4-year-olds, five 5-year-olds, and one 6-year-old and required a ratio of 2:17. It was further determined that a staff member walked in and out of classroom B 3yrs/4's leaving the ratio 1:17 when there were four 1-year-olds, seven 2-year-olds, and six 3-year-olds and required a ratio of 2:17.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on observation that there were 1-year-old children mixed with 3-year-old children when it was not the first or last hour of the day.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

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

Met

Comment

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.