



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: 8/20/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:00 AM **Departure:** 12:20 PM

CCLC-52703

Circle of Life Academy

19 Colonial Trail Garden City, GA 31408 Chatham County
 (912) 495-5152

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Kimberly Stoy

Phone: (470) 882-9829

Fax:

kimberly.stoy@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.
08/20/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/05/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/01/2025	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-Infant		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B-One's		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C-2's	One Year Olds	1	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Music
Main	D-School age	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	6	C	22	C	NA	NA	Story,Free Play
Main	E-3-5 years		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 13			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

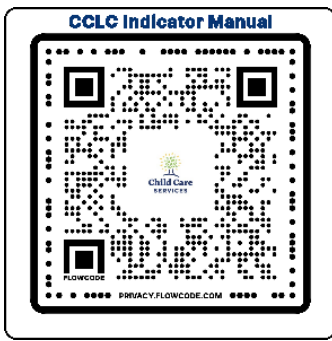
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	61	C

Enrolled Children					
Infant (0-12 months)	Toddler (1-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care)	School Age (before/after care only)	GA PreK only	Summer Only
0	12	2	11	0	0

Comments

The exit conference was completed with the Assistant Director during the visit.

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>.



For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: <https://families.dec.state.ga.us>.

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!



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

Summary Report

Date: 8/20/2026 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:00 AM Departure: 12:20 PM

CCLC-52703

Circle of Life Academy

19 Colonial Trail Garden City, GA 31408 Chatham County
(912) 495-5152

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Kimberly Stoy

Phone: (470) 882-9829

Fax:

kimberly.stoy@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met on this date.

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

Met

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

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

Not Met

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 was exposed concrete measuring approximately 10 inches in diameter at the base of the funnel ball play structure.

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. The Center will ensure that the exposed concrete is covered to prevent any injuries.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2026

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
--------------------------------	------------

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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. The vehicle and transportation documents were not available for review on this date due to the driver not being present and having the keys.

	Sleeping & Resting Equipment
--	---

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

Comment

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
--	----------------------

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

Comment

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

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

Comment

At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

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

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

	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.