



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: 2/26/2025 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:45 AM Departure: 11:20 AM

CCLC-52204

AMAZING BEGINNINGS ACADEMY

551 Highway 138 W Jonesboro, GA 30238 Clayton County  
(770) 471-2222 amazingbeginningsacademy@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Nadia Bernard

Phone: (404) 670-9398

Fax: (706) 434-7710

nadia.bernard@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/26/2025                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 09/06/2024                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11/28/2023                  | POI 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                               |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------|------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Main                            | A-1     |                 | 0                             | 0        | C    | 11         | C            | NA         | NA           |                                     |
| Main                            | A-2     | One Year Olds   | 1                             | 7        | C    | 11         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers, Diapering                  |
| Main                            | B-3     |                 | 0                             | 0        | C    | 10         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use                          |
| Main                            | C-4     | Two Year Olds   | 1                             | 9        | C    | 11         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers                             |
| Main                            | D- Cafe |                 | 0                             | 0        | C    | 27         | C            | NA         | NA           |                                     |
| Main                            | E-5     |                 | 0                             | 0        | C    | 12         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use                          |
| Main                            | F-6     |                 | 0                             | 0        | C    | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use                          |
| Main                            | G-7     | Three Year Olds | 1                             | 8        | C    | 25         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers                             |
| Main                            | H-8     | GA PreK         | 1                             | 14       | C    | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers, Transitioning, Circle Time |
| Main                            | I-9     |                 | 0                             | 0        | C    | 24         | C            | NA         | NA           |                                     |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 167 |         |                 | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                                     |
| Total # Children this Date: 38  |         |                 | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                                     |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | A- Right   | 52                   | C                     |
| Main     | B- Left    | 80                   | C                     |
| Main     | C- Rear    | 38                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 1                 | 6       | 10      | 4       | 7       | 19                 | 24                |

#### Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

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.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

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](http://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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



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**(Findings Report)**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.03(1) - Please ensure the Center provided a daily planned program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities to promote social, emotional, physical, cognitive, language and literacy growth. Center Staff shall use a variety of teaching methods to accommodate the needs of the children's different learning styles. Please ensure classrooms are following their daily schedule.

**Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development. The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on observation that Classrooms A-2, C-4, G-7 did not have current lesson plans. The lesson plans were dated for February 10- 14, 2025.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will keep current lesson plans on site that include appropriate instruction practices and activities and will have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the activities.

**Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025**

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

**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 Room A-2 had cots stored vertically behind the door causing a potential tipping hazard.

**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: 2/26/2025**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Comment

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.06(1) - Please ensure that all toilets and bathrooms are operable to maintain capacity requirements.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2025

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Not Met

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Comment

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

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 in Room H-8 a staff bag was accessible to children on the carpet in the block area.

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: 2/26/2025

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2024

Corrected on 2/26/2025

.25(3) - The citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The consultant observed all light fixtures to be in good repair.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that Playground A that the perimeter fence entry and exit gate had a nine inch gap at the bottom. It was further observed that the fence near the swing on Playground A had a five and half inch gap from the foundation pole.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use. The consultant requested the center staff email picture of repairs to the fence.

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2025

Recited on 2/26/2025

**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 Playground B had one inch of resilient surface around the fall zones of the large slide when six inches of resilient surface 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: 3/8/2025**

**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 on Playground C the drainage pipe was not in good repair and had exposed sharp edges.

**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: 3/8/2025**

**Recited on 2/26/2025**

**Food Service**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**

**Met**

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

**Health and Hygiene**

**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 9/6/2024**

**Corrected on 2/26/2025**

.07(5) - The citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The consultant did not observe any pacifier attachments on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Policies and Procedures**

**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

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

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**Comment**

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

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

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 - Please ensure that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick.

**Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025****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-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)****Met****Comment**

Director provided two files for employees hired since last visit.

**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**Comment**

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

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

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

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**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 a child walked from Room H-8 into Room I-9 without adult supervision to retrieve something out of a backpack.

**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: 2/26/2025**

**Recited on 2/26/2025**