



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: 1/22/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:05 AM **Departure:** 3:10 PM

CCLC-57130

Bloom Learning Academy

80 Charleston Place Covington, GA 30016 Newton County
(678) 744-7310

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

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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.
01/22/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/10/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
10/09/2025	Complaint Investigation 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 Building	A - 1st Left - Infants		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main Building	B - 2nd Left 1Yr	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding,Floor Play
Main Building	C - 3rd Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Nap,Floor Play
Main Building	Cafe		0	0	C	39	C	55	C	Not In Use
Main Building	E - 1st Right	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	22	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Floor Play
Main Building	F - 2nd Right	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	24	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Nap,Floor Play
Main Building	G - 3rd Right Preschool	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	24	C	34	C	Nap,Floor Play,Lunch
Main Building	H - 4th Right Preschool		0	0	C	27	C	37	C	Not In Use
Main Building	I - 5th Right School Age		0	0	C	37	C	51	C	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 230			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 280							
Total # Children this Date: 54			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 230							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 280							

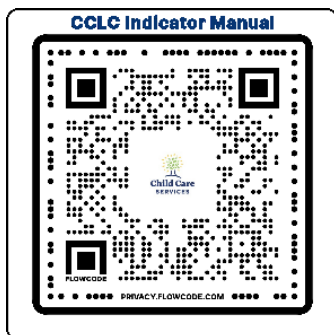
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main Building	A - Infant Toddler	19	C
Main Building	B - School Age	90	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
13	7	23	29	5	0	12

Comments

Background checks were reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed



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.decal.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.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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@decal.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 Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(1) - The consultant discussed with the director that each Employee and child in attendance to use all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment in a safe and appropriate manner and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, recommendations, and intended use. All equipment and furniture shall be used only by the age-appropriate group of children. Please ensure that the chairs in the 1 st left classroom are age-appropriate.

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2026

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records reviewed would not save.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Evening Care

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

Met

Comment

Seven children enrolled for evening hours.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

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

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

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

Comment

Please secure all fans out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2025

Corrected on 1/22/2026

.25(3) Previous citation observed corrected in that the broken exterior window was covered in the 5th R classroom and a new glass window is on order. The ceiling light fixture were repaired in the 3 Left and the 3 R bathroom.

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025

Corrected on 1/22/2026

.26(4) - Previous citation corrected in that based on observation fencing material was replaced on playground B and playground C.

Food Service

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

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

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations	Met
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Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)	Not Met
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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 three children in the 1st right classroom did not wash their hands properly when there was no liquid soap available at the sink.

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: 1/22/2026

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.21(1)(r) requires Center policies and procedures include a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children. It was determined based on review the center's policies and procedures did not include a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will write or revise policies and procedures to include the required description of the Center's practices used to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years or age.

Correction Deadline: 1/27/2026

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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)**Not Met****Comment**

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

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on review the Director did not have current evidence of two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(c) requires that each vehicle be equipped with a fire extinguisher maintained in working order and kept inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation the vehicle used for transportation was not equipped with a fire extinguisher.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each vehicle has a working fire extinguisher and that the fire extinguisher is kept out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. requires that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions. It was determined based on observation the center did not transport children from school to the center in passenger restraining system, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that manufacturer directions and state and federal laws are met when using child passenger restraining systems and seat safety belts.

Correction Deadline: 1/23/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on observation that there was not a check or other mark/symbol to account for the unloading of eight (8) children that was transported from Salem Elementary School to the center on January 5, 2026.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 1/23/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 8

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/25/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/06/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided [4] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) - The consultant discussed with the director 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. Please ensure that all staff members complete the required training prior to their expiration date and that the documentation of completion is properly maintained.

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2026

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I) - (VIII) - The consultant discussed with the Director that the Center develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii).

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2026

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**

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025

Corrected on 1/22/2026

.32(7) - Previous citation corrected in that based on observation that staff were seated within arms length away from 1-year-old children in Room A 1st Right and 3-year old children in Room G 3rd Right Preschool during lunch time.