



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: 4/30/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 4:45 PM

CCLC-24185

Destiny Starr Academy

2525 Georgia Highway 20 NE Conyers, GA 30012 Rockdale
 County
 (770) 602-9911

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@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.
04/30/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/02/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
09/22/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	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
Building II	Left Side		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Building II	Right Side	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 41			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 209							
Main	A 1/R	Infants	1	2	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B/ 2R	One Year Olds	2	7	C	9	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Free Play
Main	C/3R	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D/4/R	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	8	C	18	C	25	C	Transitioning
Main	E/ 1R	GA PreK	1	13	C	20	C	28	C	Transitioning
Main	F/ BackLeft/Pre-K	GA PreK	2	20	C	20	C	28	C	Transitioning
Main	G/ 2L		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	H/Middle	Six Year Olds and Over	2	16	NC	21	C	29	C	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 137			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 209							
Total # Children this Date: 86			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 178			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 209				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	left front	11	C
Main	Preschool Front	53	C
Main	S/age back	53	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
2	9	14	9	34	14	33

Comments

On this date, Jessica Johnson (JJ), Consultant, reviewed the visit report with Director Barshana Woods.

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 Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

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(4) - Please ensure that chairs are not stacked while children are present in classroom D/4/R.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2026

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure to update Child # 4 parent work contact information.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2026

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(13) - Please ensure that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2026

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 10/6/2025

Corrected on 4/30/2026

.26(4) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as the fence was observed repaired.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure monitoring the 3.5 inch gap at the bottom of the gate on the right side of the Preschool Front playground.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - Please ensure that broken toys are removed from the left front playground.

Correction Deadline: 5/10/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed:

Left Front Playground

- Rust was observed on the triangular hook and chains of the bucket swings.

Preschool Front Playground

- Rust was observed on two red tricycles near the exit door and near the right fence.
- Rust was observed on the red and yellow spring bounce seesaw handles.
- Rust was observed on the blue and red tricycle merry go round handle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please ensure replacing the pool noodle on the back fence of Playground S/age.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

591-1-1-.17(7) - Please ensure that children in classroom B/2R are washing their hands after being diapered.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2026

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**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.27 - Please ensure to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2026

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

Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

Met

Comment

Field trip documentation observed to be complete 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

The Consultant observed three vehicles on-site. Per the Director only two vehicles are currently in use.

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) - Please ensure to remove all litter from all vehicles.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) - Please ensure that parent work contact information is listed on the Emergency vehicle forms.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2026

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 a review of records that one of 12 check marks were missing to account for children loading and unloading the vehicle on April 15, 2026, from Destiny Starr Academy to Camp Carousel.

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: 5/1/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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

Records Reviewed: 27
Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/24/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Staff # 12

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/17/2026

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired
"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-10 Yr. Work History Missing

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Staff # 26

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/30/2024

"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.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)
Met
Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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.

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.24(1) - Please ensure that Staff # 12 complete the 10-year history in the employment application.

Correction Deadline: 5/5/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(4) - Please ensure that within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

Correction Deadline: 5/30/2026

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed. on this date.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 5 hired on September 24, 2024, Staff # 14 hired on September 23, 2023, and Staff # 26 hired on January 20, 2024 did not have the minimum academic requirements for the lead teacher position on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 5/29/2026

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)**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 Staff members in classroom B/2R were not observed seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger during lunch time. It was further determined that a Staff member in classroom D/4R was not observed seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger during lunch time.

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: 4/30/2026