



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: 4/23/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:25 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

CCLC-65964

Lakestones Academy - Cartersville

216 E Felton Rd Cartersville, GA 30121 Bartow County
(678) 820-6899

Regional Consultant

Megan O'Mary

Phone: (706) 451-0920

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megan.omary@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Sharnette Glenn

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
04/23/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/23/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
10/16/2025	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
			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.

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	Rm A 6 weeks to 6 months	Infants	2	7	C	6	NC	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Rm B 6 weeks to 6 months		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	RM C 6 month to 13 months	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	7	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	RM D 6 Months to 13 months	One Year Olds	1	5	C	6	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Rm E Four year old	Four Year Olds	1	8	C	14	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Rm F three year olds	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	RM G Two's and Three's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Art
Main	RM H Two's	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rm I two's	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Rm J Four year old		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	RM K 13 to 23 months	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	9	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Rm L 13 months to 23 months	One Year Olds	1	7	C	9	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Centers
Main	Special Use Room		0	0	C	0	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 78			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

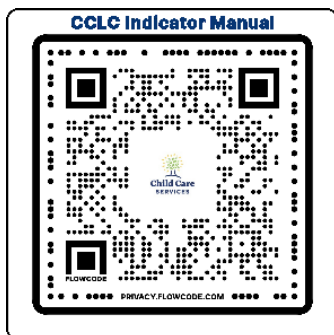
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- three year old and up	70	C
Main	B -Two's	10	C
Main	C-6 weeks to 35 months	22	C
Main	D-6 weeks to 23 months	5	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
22	16	20	28	12	2	0

Comments

The findings of this report were reviewed with the Director. Chop look listen flyers were left with the facility.

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.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.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!



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)

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 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 closet doors are locked or have child locks to prevent children from accessing hazards. Additionally, ensure to check children's bags for hazards.

Correction Deadline: 4/23/2026

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2025

Corrected on 4/23/2026

.26(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There was shade added to the playground.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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)

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/17/2025**Corrected on 4/23/2026****.24(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All staff files had documentation of orientation.****591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/17/2025**Corrected on 4/23/2026****.33(2)(a)-(n) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All staff have completed their initial center orientation.****Correction Deadline: 11/15/2025****Corrected on 4/23/2026****.33(3)(a)-(k) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All staff have documentation of health and safety orientation.****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)**

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Activities and Equipment**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/22/2025

Corrected on 4/23/2026

.03(9) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no children eating dirt.

Organization**591-1-1-.37 Inspections & Investigations**

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/21/2025

Corrected on 4/23/2026

.37(e) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Staff were attentive to children and did not make false statements on this date.