



**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:** 2/19/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:10 AM **Departure:** 6:15 PM

**CCLC-47215**

**White Oak Learning Academy #3**

2982 Grizzle Road Dawsonville, GA 30534 Dawson County  
(706) 216-3842 saraho@whiteoakacademy.com

Lead Consultant

Dianne Clarke

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Joint with: Francine Arnone

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★ ★

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                                            |               | <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. |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/19/2025                         | Licensing Study                            | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 07/24/2024                         | Complaint Closure                          | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 07/24/2024                         | 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                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Main                            | Beginners   | Infants and One Year Olds                                    | 3                             | 6        | C    | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play               |
| Main                            | Infants     | Infants                                                      | 2                             | 5        | C    | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play, Feeding, Nap |
| Main                            | PreK/ AS 1  | Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over | 2                             | 16       | C    | 26         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers                 |
| Main                            | PreK/ AS 2  |                                                              | 0                             | 0        | C    | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           |                         |
| Main                            | PreK/ AS 3  | Six Year Olds and Over                                       | 1                             | 16       | C    | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play, Centers      |
| Main                            | PreK/ AS 4  | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds                           | 2                             | 17       | C    | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play               |
| Main                            | Preschool 1 | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds                            | 2                             | 13       | C    | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play               |
| Main                            | Preschool 2 | Two Year Olds                                                | 3                             | 12       | C    | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play               |
| Main                            | Preschool 3 | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds                           | 3                             | 13       | C    | 28         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play               |
| Main                            | Preschool 4 | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds                            | 3                             | 20       | C    | 26         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play               |
| Main                            | Toddlers    | One Year Olds                                                | 2                             | 9        | C    | 18         | C            | NA         | NA           | Feeding                 |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 237 |             |                                                              | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                         |
| Total # Children this Date: 127 |             |                                                              | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                         |

| Building | Playground     | Playground<br>Occupancy | Playground<br>Compliance |
|----------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Main     | U - Left       | 20                      | C                        |
| Main     | V- Right Front | 69                      | C                        |
| Main     | W- Right Back  | 62                      | C                        |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 19                | 30      | 20      | 38      | 21      | 40                 | 65                |

### Comments

The purpose of the visit is to conduct a Licensing Study visit.

Reminders: Refer to the published communicable disease chart for guidance regarding communicable diseases. In most scenarios, only outbreaks/clusters should be reported to the local health districts. Please be sure you are using the most updated chart.

Please be sure to contact the Dawson County Department of Health, if there are any outbreaks/clusters of positive COVID-19 cases immediately and get their guidance. Please be sure to also complete a Required Report in DECAL KOALA for all individual cases of communicable diseases within 24 hours. Be sure to select "Notifiable Communicable Diseases" to report closures for COVID cases.

Be sure to enter all temporary closures by 7 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, inclement weather, holidays etc...) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily because you are not caring for children for one day or more. Please be sure to SAVE the report prior to exiting.

All amendments are required to be electronically submitted in DECAL KOALA effective 2021.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

Please ensure that the director and staff responsible for food preparation completes the four (4) hours of nutrition training as soon as possible but within the first year of employment.

Please remember that the transportation training certificates must be completed prior to participating in transportation and renewed every two years for anyone checking the vehicle, chaperoning on a trip, and signing the checklist, including the director. Please ensure that directors ensure that they complete the transportation training upon being hired at the center. Please ensure to contact your consultant for guidance if you have not been conducting transportation and plan on conducting transportation.

\*\*As of January 1, 2024, there is a free Transportation Training available on OLLI in Georgia PDS (GaPDS) as ProSolutions will no longer offer the class for free. Also, you will be able to find the Health and Safety Orientation Training, which will be 15 hours, for free as well (staff must complete all 15 hours for the course to be counted).

Talk about updated orientation checklist.

Indicator manual and utilizing it. FYI: As of October 1, 2024, for larger equipment please be sure to have the amount of equipment for the amount of children enrolled (this include cribs, chairs, etc.)

Talk about updated Transportation forms including sample as of October 1, 2023, use immediately.

Discussed regarding ensuring to complete rechecks for Criminal Records checks at least 90 days before the five-year expiration. Suggestion: Check monthly or sooner to ensure that staff's criminal records checks are not about to expire.

Discussed regarding mats using tape to repair, must replace.

Don't forget to post new license beginning January 1, 2025.

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.

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#### 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.

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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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.12(1) - Please ensure that all equipment are in clean and good repair, including vinyl cushions.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2025**

**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**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure all children's information is complete in the enrollment packet including the release person's address.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2025**

**Facility**

**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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(13) - Please keep all hazardous materials inaccessible to children at all times. Ensure all cabinets within reach of children are locked at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - Please ensure sinks are in good repair and draining properly at all times. Also, please make sure that all vents are fitted in the ceiling properly to prevent exposed gaps.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2025**

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please ensure the resilient surface in the playground is maintained and in good repair at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2025**

**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 all children wash hands with warm water and liquid soap after diapering at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(8) - Please ensure that staff washes hands with warm water and liquid soap before and after diapering at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2025**

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**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 that the fire extinguisher in the vehicles being used for transportation was not observed to be inspected. Vehicle tag number EHP 678 expired June 2024, vehicle tag EHP 677 expired June 2023, and EHP 679 expired June 2024.

**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. The extinguishers were inspected during the visit.

**Correction Deadline: 2/19/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.36(4)(e) - Please ensure that seats in the vehicles are in good repair and fastened at all times including in vehicles that are not in use but will be used for emergencies.

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(b) requires that cots and mats are provided for each child who is two (2) years of age or older and who is required to take a nap. and for each child under the age of two (2) years who can climb out of a crib. It was determined based on observation that three classrooms were observed to have torn cots.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will ensure that cots and mats are provided for each child who is two (2) years of age or older and who is required to take a nap. and for each child under the age of two years who can climb out of a crib. The provider stated that they will replace.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2025

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

-Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10-year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the childcare industry.

-Please ensure that all staff, volunteers, independent contractors, substitutes, therapists, etc...has their records check electronically ported to the center's list in KOALA before being present at the facility.

-Please ensure that records checks are redone if there is a six-month (180 calendar days) break in service from the childcare industry.

-Please also ensure that satisfactory records checks are updated before the expiration date.

-Ensure that all therapists and other independent contractors have an updated records check on file, before being present at the center or home or ensure that the individual is supervised at all times by a staff member who has a comprehensive records check if they do not have a records check on file.

-Please ensure that staff with a national background check is always present with a staff member who has a comprehensive background check. Staff should never be by themselves.

**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.

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

**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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date. Discussed the supervision rule which states: 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.