



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: 2/17/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 1:50 PM **Departure:** 6:10 PM

CCLC-54234

Learn N Play Academy

256 West May Street Winder, GA 30680 Barrow County
 (770) 867-4996

Regional Consultant

Lynn Schnitzer

Phone: (678) 717-5720

Fax: (770) 344-5683

lynn.schnitzer@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
02/17/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/27/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	
01/08/2025	Licensing Study	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 1R- 4's		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main	B- 2R/Back 2"s	Two Year Olds	1	3	C	20	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	C/1L/Pre-K 2		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	D/2L/Pre-K 1	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	3	C	21	C	NA	NA	TV
Main	E/Lower L (3's)	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	32	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Na p
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 16			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

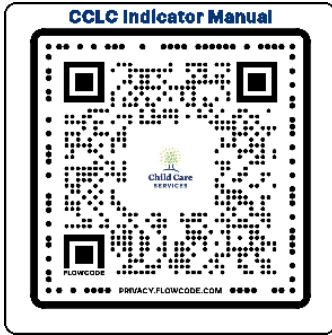
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	C- 1's	14	C
Main	D- Left Toddler	9	C
Main	PG/A/Right 2's	120	C
Main	PG/B/Left 3-12yrs	41	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	1	3	7	11	9	12

Comments

The consultant discussed the visit report with the Administrator, Gina Chambers, on February 17, 2026.

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!



Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2025

Corrected on 2/17/2026

.03(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that the classrooms had current lesson plans posted.

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

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2025

Corrected on 2/17/2026

.08(1)(b) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed five of five children's records reviewed had written authorization for the center to obtain emergency medical care for the child when the parent is not available

Facility

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2025

Corrected on 2/17/2026

.19(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the children to be cared for in the licensed areas of the center.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that hand sanitizer, "sharpie" markers, stapler, and stapler remover are stored out of reach of the children in classroom C/1L/Pre-K 2.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation there were loose base boards peeling paint on the wall in classroom D/2L/Pre-K 1.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that there was an uncovered outlet in classroom B-2R/Back 2's.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

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 there was four and a half inch gap at the bottom of the gate between playgrounds PG/A/Right 2's and PG/B/Left 3 - 12yrs, and a 5-inch gap under the gate next to the ramp on playground PG/A/Right 2's.

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.

Correction Deadline: 2/27/2026

Recited on 2/17/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that the sweet gum balls are removed from playground PG/B/Left 3 -12yrs.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2025

Corrected on 2/17/2026

.10(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that children were changed in designated changing areas inside the classroom.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

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 a review of records that staff #7, date of hire November 3, 2024, performed second checks of the transportation vehicle after the school transportation route to Kennedy Elementary on February 2, 2026, February 3, 2026, February 6, 2026, and after the school transportation route to Holsenbeck Elementary on February 10, 2026, and February 13, 2026, and staff #7 did not complete state-approved transportation training until February 17, 2026.

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: 2/27/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on review of records that the second seat on the driver side was torn with exposed foam in vehicle tag number ETZ 689.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2026

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 that two of four car booster seats were expired on vehicle tag number ETZ 689 and three of five car booster seats were expired on vehicle tag number RYA5733.

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: 2/18/2026

Correction Deadline: 1/9/2025

Corrected on 2/17/2026

.36(7)(c)3. - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that center staff documented the date for transportation routes on the checklists.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Comment

Center does not enroll infants or have students sleeping in cribs.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)3 requires that sheets or similar coverings for cots or mats shall either be marked for individual use or laundered daily. If marked for individual use, they must be laundered weekly or more frequently if needed. It was determined based on observation that nine of nine children did not have sheets on their mats during nap time in classroom E/Lower L (3's).

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that sheets are marked for individual use or washed daily and that marked sheets are washed at least weekly.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/05/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/03/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/03/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid 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 three files for employees hired since last visit January 8, 2025.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on review of records that staff #4, date of hire July 21, 2026, did not have evidence of current certification in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and in pediatric first aid on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires 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. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #8, date of hire September 3, 2025, did not have evidence of current certification in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training on file and was the only staff member present in classroom B-2R/Back 2's.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(1) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that new staff are given center orientation prior to being assigned to a task or a classroom.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

Correction Deadline: 2/7/2025

Corrected on 2/17/2026

.33(4) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that the director had completed four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

Finding

Previously Cited: 91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules.

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)(2)(i)-(iv) requires the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics, which could include, but not be limited to:

(i) Child development (e.g., developmental domains (cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; approaches to play and learning), discipline and guidance techniques, children with special needs); (ii) Health (e.g., nutrition and the support of breast feeding, physical activity, prevention and control of illnesses and infectious diseases, immunizations, prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions, cleanliness, sanitation, and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants); (iii) Safety (e.g., prevention of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) which includes Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and the use of safe sleeping practices, medication administration, injury control and prevention, transportation, handling and storage of hazardous materials, identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic, and emergency preparedness planning and response); (iv) Child abuse and neglect (e.g., identification and reporting, meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children, prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment). It was determined based on review of records that staff #3's, date of hire June 12, 2023, annual training did not include at least two (2) hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics, or two (2) hours of language and literacy, and staff #6, date of hire August 8, 2022, had evidence of only four of ten hours of training for 2025 on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Previously Cited: The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year to include a least two (2) hours of on-going child development and health and safety related topics and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026

Recited on 2/17/2026

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.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.