



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: 2/9/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:40 AM **Departure:** 5:40 PM

CCLC-58057

Great Beginnings of Dacula

1271 Harbins Rd. Dacula, GA 30019 Gwinnett County
 (770) 995-4343

Regional Consultant

Lynn Schnitzer

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lynn.schnitzer@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.
02/09/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
01/08/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/08/2026	Complaint Closure	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
I	C- 3's	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	23	C	32	C	Transitioning
I	E- 4's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	19	C	27	C	38	C	Transitioning, Story
I	F- 4's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	19	C	27	C	38	C	Centers, Story
I	G-Private Pre-K	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	18	C	27	C	NA	NA	Centers, Clean Up
I	H- 3's & 4's	Three Year Olds	3	16	C	27	C	37	C	Art
I	I	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	21	C	29	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
I	J- 2's	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	17	C	33	C	NA	NA	Centers
I	K- 2's	Two Year Olds	2	17	C	34	C	NA	NA	Centers
I	L- 1's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	13	C	22	C	NA	NA	Music
I	M- 1's	One Year Olds	2	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside
I	N- 6wks-12mths	Infants and One Year Olds	2	12	C	23	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap
I	O- 6wks- 12 mths	Infants	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 310					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 733					
II	A-GA- Pre-K 1	GA PreK	2	18	C	23	C	33	C	Transitioning, Story

II	B- Gym/ Afterschool 5-12 yrs		0	0	C	111	C	NA	NA	
II	C- GA-Pre-K- 3	GA PreK	2	17	C	22	C	30	C	Transitioning
II	D- GA Pre-K 2	GA PreK	2	18	C	25	C	35	C	Outside
II	E GA Pre-K - 6	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	12	C	27	C	38	C	Centers
II	F- GA Pre-K -5	GA PreK	3	19	C	24	C	34	C	Art
II	G- GA Pre-K-7	GA PreK	2	18	C	22	C	31	C	Circle Time
II	H- GA Pre-K- 4	GA PreK	1	17	C	23	C	32	C	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 277					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 733					
Total # Children this Date: 305					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 587					
					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 733					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
I	Playground A- 6wks- 12myhs	25	C
I	Playground B- 1's & 2 yrs	40	C
I	Playground C-2's - 4's	73	C
I	Playground D- 4- 7 yrs	63	C
II	Playground E - 4- 12 yrs	135	C

Comments

The consultant discussed the visit report with the Administrator, ,Melissa Lopez, on February 9, 2026.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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 Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/16/2026

Corrected on 2/9/2026

.26(4) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the maintenance crew was in the process of filling in the gap underneath the gate between playgrounds C -2's - 4's, and E - 4 - 12 yrs.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026

Corrected on 2/9/2026

.17(7) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed children to wash hands as needed throughout the center.

	Staff Records
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Records Reviewed: 60

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 18

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Not Met

Comment

Director provided six files for employees hired since last visit January 8,2026.

Finding

591-1-1-.09(i) requires that for a Provisional Employee to become a permanent Employee, the individual must have a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination. It was determined based on review of records that the center did not submit a portability request for staff #18's, date of hire unknown, satisfactory comprehensive determination letter. Staff member #18 was observed to have a satisfactory comprehensive determination letter dated for July 24, 2025. The consultant observed staff member #18 working in classroom A GA Pre-K 1, Building 2. The center director ported staff member #18's letter during the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that Provisional Employees obtain a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination in order to become an Employee. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/9/2026