



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: 11/13/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:15 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

CCLC-37962

Tabula Rasa The Language Academy

1430 Riverside Parkway Lawrenceville, GA 30043 Gwinnett
County
(678) 985-8080

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.
11/13/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/02/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
06/02/2025	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
Main	A 1R	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	10	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	B 2R	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	C 3R		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	D 4R	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	14	C	28	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Dining Hall		0	0	C	21	C	30	C	
Main	E Rear R	GA PreK	2	17	C	26	C	NA	NA	Story,Circle Time
Main	F Rear L	GA PreK	2	18	C	28	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Story
Main	G 3L	Two Year Olds	3	12	C	31	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	H 2L	Two Year Olds	3	19	C	40	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	I 1L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	16	C	40	C	NA	NA	Story,Circle Time
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 262			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 271				
Total # Children this Date: 108			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 262			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 271				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A Left Side	87	C
Main	B Rear	91	C
Main	C Right Side	81	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	10	29	20	19	36	0

Comments

Consultant discussed the report with Director, Melissa Sinishtaj Vargas, on November 13, 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.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

Date: 11/13/2025 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:15 AM Departure: 2:45 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

Comment

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

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that wipes and plastic bags are stored out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 11/13/2025

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Comment

591-1-1-.26(8) - Consultant and director discussed keeping the foam mats level with the resilient surfacing. The director stated that additional resilient surfacing was being delivered.

Correction Deadline: 11/23/2025

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Consultant observed infant feeding forms were current.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(3) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that bottles are fully labeled with each child's first and last name.

Correction Deadline: 11/13/2025

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

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.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(2)(r) - New - Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.

Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.decgal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Met

Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

N/A

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Staff stated knowledge of infant safe sleep requirements.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 24

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/22/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90
calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR 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 five files for employees hired since last visit June 2, 2025..

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Not Met

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center on this date.

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 #24, date of hire September 22, 2025, did not have evidence of the required hands-on skills test for CPR 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: 12/13/2025

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

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) - New - Consultant discussed with the director that new staff who completed health and safety orientation training more than twelve months prior to being hired need to take health and safety orientation training within 90 days of being hired. Consultant also discussed with the director that Health & Safety Orientation Training cannot be taken to fulfill the annual training requirement more than once every 5 years.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) - New - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2025

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.