



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: 12/29/2025 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:25 AM **Departure:** 12:35 PM

CCLC-25589

Excell Preparatory Center

5105 Salem Road Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County
(770) 322-5210

Special Investigations Unit Specialist

Brittany Cook

Phone: (706) 434-4412

Fax: (706) 434-7708

brittany.cook@dec.al.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.
12/29/2025	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Deficient	
12/03/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	Support	
11/19/2025	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	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-Infants-1st Rt		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B- 2nd Rt-Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	C- 3rd Rt- 1 y/o		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D- 4th Rt- 1 y/o	One Year Olds	2	11	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	E-5th Rt- 2 y/o	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	F-6th Right-2 y/o	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	G-1st Left- 3 y/o	Three Year Olds	2	9	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H- 2nd Lft- 3 y/o	Three Year Olds	2	9	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I- 3rd Lft-4 y/o	Four Year Olds	1	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	J-Back Hall-4 y/o	Four Year Olds	1	3	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	K-Back Hall-5 y/o	Six Year Olds and Over	1	10	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	L-Back Hall-6y/o		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	M-Back Hall-End-7+		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	N-Cafeteria-5-12y/o		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	Not In Use

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 253

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 78

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 253

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A: Infant - 2 year playground	55	C

Main	B: 3-4 Year Old Playground	23	C
Main	Back Playground	48	C
Main	C: School Age Playground	47	C
Main	Front Paved Playground	7	C
Main	Left Playground	19	C
Main	Right Playground	44	C

Comments

December 29, 2025- The investigation was not concluded on this date.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 01/13/2026

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.decgal.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!



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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation & Follow Up:

Staffing and Supervision

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. 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. It was determined based on observation that staff were not seated arm's length away during mealtime from five 2-year-old children in Main F-6th Right-2 y/o. The staff to child ratio was 2:11. One staff was placing cots on the floor, assisted a child who was laid on the cot, and then moved to sit at the table with six children. The other staff was standing at the sink and remained there.

Correction Deadline: 12/29/2025

Recited on 12/29/2025