



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: 9/23/2026 VisitType: POI Follow Up

Arrival: 12:15 PM Departure: 2:15 PM

CCLC-32497

Grace Learning Academy

3981 Glenwood Road Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
(404) 228-2175

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

Phone: (470) 368-6652

Fax:

cassandra.jakes-beasley@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.
09/23/2026	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
09/23/2026	Initial-TA	NA	
07/23/2026	Licensing Study	Support	
			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.

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	1st right	Three Year Olds	1	5	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	1st left	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	2nd left	Four Year Olds	1	4	NC	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	2nd right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	4	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 48					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 20					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

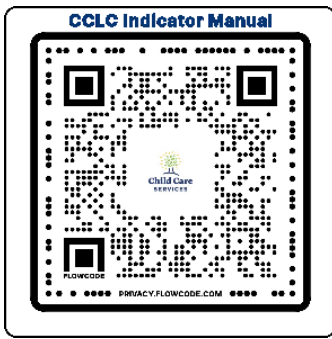
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Play	25	C

Enrolled Children					
Infant (0-12 months)	Toddler (1-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care)	School Age (before/after care only)	GA PreK only	Summer Only

Comments

The findings of this report were reviewed with the Director on this date.

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>.



For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: <https://families.dec.al.ga.gov>.

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!



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

Summary Report

Date: 9/23/2026 VisitType: POI Follow Up

Arrival: 12:15 PM Departure: 2:15 PM

CCLC-32497

Grace Learning Academy

3981 Glenwood Road Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
(404) 228-2175

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

Phone: (470) 368-6652

Fax:

cassandra.jakes-beasley@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/25/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.12(2) - - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed that the blue vinyl seat in classroom 2nd left was removed.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.08(2) - The previous citation was corrected. Based on statement child #4 is no longer attending the center.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.08(6)-The previous citation was corrected. The Consultant observed the current sign in and out sheets on this date.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.06(4) - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed that the mechanical ventilation in the back hallway bathroom was operable.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.25(13) - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed that there were no hazards accessible to children in the 1st Left classroom.

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 that the entry gate from the driveway to the center did not have a latch or lock and could not securely close.

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: 9/25/2026

Recited on 9/23/2026

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.25(8) - - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed that all electrical outlets were covered in 1st right classroom.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.26(9) - - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed that the playground is no longer in use and an amendment request has been submitted.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.16(f) -The previous citation was corrected on this date. The director submitted an application to add additional playground space on

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.21(1)(a-o) requires the Center to establish and implement written policies and procedures that describe the Center's operations as follows: a) services to be provided, ages of children served, days and times of operations and days and times closed; b) enrollment and admission requirements specifying Parents' responsibilities for supplying needed information and escorting the child to and from the Center; c) a fee and payment schedule with standard fees, fees related to absences and vacations and other fees such as for transportation and late fees; d) Center's transportation and field trip services; e) administration of medication and Parent notification of adverse reactions to prescribed medication; f) Parental notification in cases of illness/injury and exclusion of sick children; g) Parental notification when a notifiable communicable disease is present; h) handling of medical emergencies; i) meals and snacks served, including guidelines for food brought from child's home; j) access by the Parents to all Center areas used by the child; k) child abuse reporting law requirements; l) behavior management and discipline actions used to include expulsion and suspension of enrolled children; m) nondiscrimination statement; n) Center sponsored religious and cultural activities; and o) diapering, toilet training and feeding procedures for infants and toddlers. It was determined based on review that the Center did not have acknowledgements from parents that they received updated policies and procedures which included the behavior management and discipline actions used to include expulsion and suspension of enrolled children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will revise their policies and procedures to include all required information and update as needed.

Correction Deadline: 9/28/2026

Recited on 9/23/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.21(1)(r) requires Center policies and procedures include 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. It was determined based on review that the Center did not have acknowledgement on file from the parents that they had received the updated policies and procedures which included 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 and all of the required information.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will write or revise policies and procedures to include the required description of the Center's practices used to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years or age.

Correction Deadline: 9/28/2026

Recited on 9/23/2026

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

The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that non-essential items are removed are secured in the vehicle.

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 observation the left side of the double door of vehicle # SPE 4269 would not open.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.36(4)(c) -The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed that the vehicle was equipped with a fire extinguisher.

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 three children, eight-years-old and younger were not transported from school in child seats as required by state and federal laws.

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: 9/24/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met**

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.30(1)(b)3 - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed that all mats were covered with a bottom sheet.

Staff Records

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.14(1)(a) - The previous citation corrected. The Consultant observed evidence of current CPR and first aid training for staff #8.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)(a)- This rule will be evaluated during the next licensing visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2026

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.33(5)(b)(2)(i)-(iv) - Previous citation corrected.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records there was no evidence of lead teacher credentials on file for staff #8.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2026

Recited on 9/23/2026

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

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Corrected on 9/23/2026

.32(7) - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed that all of the children were supervised on this date.