



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: 2/13/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:20 AM **Departure:** 1:15 PM

CCLC-1100

Austell Learning Academy

2081 Mesa Valley Way Austell, GA 30106 Cobb County
(770) 948-2020 austelllearningacademy@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Alison Benson

Phone: (866) 369-6921

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alison.benson@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.
02/13/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/23/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/11/2024	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	Rm A-1L	Infants	1	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	Rm B- 1L (2nd Room)	One Year Olds	1	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm C- 3L		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm E- Back L		0	0	C	28	C	39	C	
Main	Rm F- Far Back L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	15	C	21	C	30	C	Nap
Main	Rm G- Middle Far Back	GA PreK	2	19	C	28	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm H- 5R		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm I- 4R	GA PreK	2	13	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm J- 3R	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm K- 2R	Two Year Olds	1	12	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm L- 1R		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 228			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 228							
Total # Children this Date: 78			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 228							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 228							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	8	C
Main	B	97	C
Main	C	46	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
7	9	16	14	23	11	0

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a License Study Visit and to follow-up from the previous visit.

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.decal.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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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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

N/A

Comment

The center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

N/A

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Food Service

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Met****Comment**

No medication is being dispensed at this time.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

The program was observed to complete emergency drills as required.

Safety**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**

The center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The center does not provide routine transportation at this time.

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

A pleasant naptime environment was observed.

Staff Records**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 8/26/2024****Corrected on 2/13/2025****.09(1)(b) - Criminal record checks were observed for all staff on this date.****Correction Deadline: 8/26/2024****Corrected on 2/13/2025****.09(1)(l)3. - Criminal records were observed for all staff on this date.**

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR	Met
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Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training	Met
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Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

Corrected on 2/13/2025

.33(5) - Training was observed for 2024.

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

The center was observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)	Not Met
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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, two children from the Pre-K classroom, housed in room G were observed to be in classroom H without a staff person present. The children were using the restroom and washing their hands while both staff were in the other classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 2/27/2025