



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: 4/30/2026 **VisitType:** POI Follow Up

Arrival: 11:05 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

CCLC-3329

The Preschool Academy

2800 Atlanta Highway Athens, GA 30606 Clarke County
(706) 353-8183

CCS Coordinator

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@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.
04/30/2026	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
04/06/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/23/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Support	

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	1R	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	25	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap,Free Play
Main	2R	One Year Olds	1	8	C	24	C	NA	NA	Story,Circle Time
Main	3R Back	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Story
Main	3R front		0	0	C	32	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	4R Back		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	4R Front	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	35	C	NA	NA	Story,Lunch,Transitioning
Main	5R left side	Four Year Olds	1	10	C	23	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Transitioning,Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 170			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 46			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 170			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

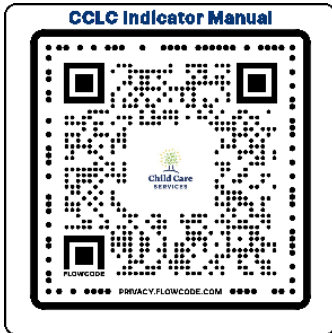
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground - A	44	C
Main	Playground - B	152	C
Main	Playground - C	8	C

Comments

The following was discussed with the Director during the visit:

- Amendments - The Consultant measured a new playground area for the infants and toddlers. However, the Center will submit an amendment via DECAL KOALA to ensure that the new playground area is added to the center's overall licensed capacity. Further discussed the removal of classroom 4R Back and classroom 5R Left Side from the Center's overall licensed capacity.
- Chop, Look, and Listen flyers were provided to the Director.

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.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.

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.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 POI Follow Up:

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(17) requires that the Center premises be free of plants and shrubs which are poisonous or hazardous. It was determined based on observation that vines were observed growing on the back-right side of the fence located on Playground A. It was further determined based on observation that branches were protruding through the fence located on the back-right side of Playground A. Vines were also observed to be growing the fence located on the back-left side of the fence located on Playground B. The vines and branches were observed to be accessible to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The harmful item will be removed. The Center will trim the vines and branches back to prevent potential damage to the playground fence and to ensure that children are unable to access the vines and branches.

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026

Recited on 4/30/2026

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

Corrected on 4/30/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed the previous hole with the exposed wire to be covered in classroom 5R Left Side and the purple air conditioning vent located on the back-right side of classroom 2R was observed to be removed and covered with a painted white wooden board. The Center removed the empty refrigerator from classroom 5R Right Side, covered the hole observed on the front-left side of the wall located in the pantry, and no dead and/or live bugs were observed throughout the center during the visit. The Consultant discussed continued monitoring of the center for normal wear and tear.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Corrected on 4/30/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed the playground fence to be in good repair. The Consultant discussed monitoring the playground fence for normal wear and tear (i.e., gaps, exposed bolts, etc.).

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2026

Corrected on 4/30/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The mats were removed from Playground A and the wooden beam with the exposed nail was removed from Playground B. The Consultant discussed monitoring the playground areas for loose and/or weak tree branches, biting and/or stinging insects, standing water, and excessive leaves and/or pine cones throughout the grounds.

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2026

Corrected on 4/30/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed all food items to be in sound condition and free from spoilage.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2026

Corrected on 4/30/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed the kitchen stove to be clean and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Corrected on 4/30/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed the sink located on the front-right side of classroom 3R Back to be working and in good repair. The sink was further observed to have warm running water available as needed.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Corrected on 4/30/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed Center Staff to remind children to wash their hands upon completing restroom activities.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Corrected on 4/30/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Center Staff stated the proper handwashing procedures for Center Staff.