



**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:** 5/9/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

**CCLC-52703**

**Circle of Life Academy**

19 Colonial Trail Garden City, GA 31408 Chatham County  
(912) 495-5152 colacademy19@gmail.com

Lead Consultant

Kimberly Stoy

Phone: (678) 747-6836

Fax: (706) 314-7859

kimberly.stoy@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Rebecca Owsley

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                                            |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 05/09/2024                  | Licensing Study                            | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/12/2023                  | Complaint Closure                          | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/12/2023                  | 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-Infant     | Infants                            | 1                              | 4        | C    | 8                             | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play                               |
| Main                           | B-One's      | One Year Olds                      | 1                              | 7        | C    | 10                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time, Music, Breakfast, Free Play |
| Main                           | C-2's        | Two Year Olds                      | 1                              | 7        | C    | 11                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Breakfast, Centers, Free Play, Art       |
| Main                           | D-School age |                                    | 0                              | 0        | C    | 22                            | C            | NA         | NA           |                                          |
| Main                           | E-3-5 years  | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 1                              | 14       | C    | 16                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time, Breakfast                   |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67 |              |                                    | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0  |          |      |                               |              |            |              |                                          |
| Total # Children this Date: 32 |              |                                    | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                                          |

| Building | Playground   | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground A | 61                   | C                     |

**Comments**

A licensing study visit was conducted on this date. The provider does not dispense medication or offer swimming activities.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/09/2024

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.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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.

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#### 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](http://www.decalkoala.com) with the user id 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.

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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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) 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

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 met on this date.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/11/2024

Corrected on 5/9/2024

.25(11) - Consultant observed that the tiles had been replaced on this date.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/12/2023

Corrected on 5/9/2024

.26(9) - Consultant observed the playground to be in good repair on this date.

**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Correction Deadline: 12/12/2023****Corrected on 5/9/2024****.15(4) - Consultant observed that the children were strapped in the seats on this date.****Health and Hygiene****591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety****591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on reviews of records and staff statements that only the drivers and director had completed transportation training while other drivers participated in vehicle checks.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

**Correction Deadline: 5/19/2024****Sleeping & Resting Equipment****591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 12/12/2023**

Corrected on 5/9/2024

.30(2)(c) - Consultant observed safe sleep on this date.

## Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)

Met

### Comment

Director provided two file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2024

Corrected on 5/9/2024

.33(3) - Consultant observed that everyone had completed health & safety on this date.

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

Met

### Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

## 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.