



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: 8/26/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 11:45 AM **Departure:** 3:05 PM

CCLC-12198

APEC Learning Center

1099 Cascade Road, SW Atlanta, GA 30311 Fulton County
 (404) 758-6081 MDutch@APECprep.com

Special Investigations Unit Lead

Tasha McDonald

Phone: (770) 344-3353

Fax: (678) 891-5601

tasha.mcdonald@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.
08/26/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
04/09/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/03/2025	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
I	A- Downstairs		0	0	C	64	C	89	C	
I	A- upstairs 1R	One Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding
I	B- Mid(Dining)	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	11	NC	NA	NA	Outside
I	B upstairs 2 R	Four Year Olds	1	7	C	14	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside
I	C upstairs 1L	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning
I	D-upstairs 3R		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 184							
II	Pre-K		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 184							
Total # Children this Date: 32			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 159			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 184				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
I	PGR	72	C
I	Playground	72	C
II	Paved Surface	8	C

Comments

08-26-2025: The purpose of this visit is to follow up on a reported incident and to gather additional information as part of the ongoing investigation.

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@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a CI FollowUp:

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2025

Prior Visits: 04/03/2025

Corrected on 8/26/2025

.07(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The Center will provide notification and obtain instructions as required, and will train staff to ensure they are familiar with the notification requirements and the Center's procedures for compliance.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that a staff member did not wash their hands after wiping the noses of three children in the C Upstairs 1L classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Staff Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2025

Prior Visits: 04/03/2025

Corrected on 8/26/2025

.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed all staff to have obtained a satisfactory criminal record determination on this date.

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2025

Prior Visits: 04/03/2025

Corrected on 8/26/2025

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed all staff to have obtained a satisfactory criminal record determination on this date.

Corrected on 8/26/2025

.09(1)(j) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed all staff to have obtained a satisfactory criminal record determination on this date.