



**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:** 9/23/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 11:30 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

**CCLC-38373**

**Buford Children's Academy**

4440 Commerce Drive Buford, GA 30518 Gwinnett County  
(678) 765-7870

Regional Consultant

Brittany Lindsey

Phone: (770) 405-7931

Fax:

brittany.lindsey@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                                   |               | <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. |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09/23/2025                         | Licensing Study                   | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/15/2024                         | Complaint Closure                 | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/08/2024                         | Complaint Investigation Follow Up | 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 - 1R   | Three Year Olds                   | 2     | 10       | C                             | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap            |
| Main                            | B - 2R   |                                   | 0     | 0        | C                             | 18         | C            | NA         | NA           |                |
| Main                            | C - 3R   | Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 2     | 18       | C                             | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap            |
| Main                            | D - 4R   |                                   | 0     | 0        | C                             | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use     |
| Main                            | E - Rear |                                   | 0     | 0        | C                             | 26         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use     |
| Main                            | F - 3L   | Two Year Olds                     | 1     | 6        | C                             | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap            |
| Main                            | G - 2L   | One Year Olds                     | 1     | 3        | C                             | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap            |
| Main                            | H - 1L   | Infants and One Year Olds         | 1     | 5        | C                             | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play,Nap |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 150 |          |                                   |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                |
| Total # Children this Date: 42  |          |                                   |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | A - Left   | 24                   | C                     |
| Main     | B - Middle | 169                  | C                     |
| Main     | C - Right  | 66                   | C                     |

| <b>Enrolled Children</b> |                |                |                |                |                           |                          |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Under 1 years</b>     | <b>1 years</b> | <b>2 years</b> | <b>3 years</b> | <b>4 years</b> | <b>5 years (Prekonly)</b> | <b>5 years and older</b> |
| 7                        | 5              | 10             | 11             | 16             | 4                         | 0                        |

### Comments

Reminder:

Please ensure all staff receiving 2 hours of training in Literacy and Language Development. You can find and register for approved trainings through the Early Learning Language and Literacy Lab and your GaPDS account listed under "Find Trainings".

Please ensure new hired staff receive Pediatric CPR/First Aid training within 45 days of their hired date.

Please ensure a behavior management plan is on file in your center's handbook/policy.

Please ensure all volunteers, independent contractors, and students-in-training receive Documentation of Orientation training.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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](http://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](mailto: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:** 9/23/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 11:30 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

**CCLC-38373**

**Buford Children's Academy**

4440 Commerce Drive Buford, GA 30518 Gwinnett County  
(678) 765-7870

Regional Consultant

Brittany Lindsey

Phone: (770) 405-7931

Fax:

brittany.lindsey@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

Met

**Comment**

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

**Comment**

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

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

Met

**Comment**

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

**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-.06 Bathrooms**

Met

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Met

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

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

Met

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**Comment**

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 8/8/2024**

**Corrected on 9/23/2025**

.25(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected. The Consultant observed in Classroom 3L and 2R clean and well maintained bathroom with no dust and proper ventilation. The Consultant also observed no chipped paint/sheet rock on the ceilings.

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

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

**Food Service**

**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition** **Met**

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

**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**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Policies and Procedures**

**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices** **Met**

**Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting** **Met**

**Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

**Safety**

**591-1-1-.05 Animals** **N/A**

**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.

**Correction Deadline: 8/15/2024**

**Corrected on 9/23/2025**

.11(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected. The consultant observed redirection as part of the staff member's approach in handling misbehavior and/or challenging behaviors. The consultant also observed each staff member stating their approach to discipline was redirection and age - appropriate conversations.

---

**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)****N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

---

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Met****Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.  
Commercial Van Tag Number: CIY7315 Expiration Date: 10/15/2025

Note: Director stated that she paid for a new tag due to expiration in October, 2025 and was waiting for a new one to come in the mail.

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

**Comment**

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

---

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

---

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

---

**Staff Records**

---

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

---

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)****Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

---

**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)****Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center.

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

---

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

**Comment**

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

---

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Comment**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.