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: 7/29/2025 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 3:30 PM

CCLC-66635
Greater Minds Learning Academy LLC
1285 McGarity Road McDonough, GA 30252 Henry County
(678) 272-7386 director@greatermindslearningacademy.com
Temporary License

Application Services Unit Consultant
Lateshar Williams
Phone: ()
Fax:
lateshar.williams@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Margaret Pringle

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/29/2025	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

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	B1 -2 year old	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	12	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rm A 6w to 12m	Infants	1	4	C	12	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Rm D-Older/young Afterschoolers	Five Year Olds	1	5	C	19	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Rm G -3's &4's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Lunch
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 64			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 32		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 64			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A: Infants/Toddlers	38	C
Main	C: Left Back	116	C
Main	playground B -3's &4's	47	C

Comments
The Change of Ownership initial inspection was completed on today. This program carries liability insurance. A follow up visit will be conducted.

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 techincal assistance is available!**

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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a ILS:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Not Met**

Comment
Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable. All toys requiring batteries will be operable.

Finding
591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation rust on the chair legs and the chair stoppers in room C,
room G, and room J. Consultant also observed the book shelf in room B2 stained with dirt debris and old adhesive tape and cubbies stained with dirt debris and chipped paint on wood at the window, hazards in room D broom, dust pan, toilet brush, and the light was out in the bathroom, room F the ceiling covered with dust, black rubber missing at the bottom of wall near the door, room H loud noise in pipes when the toilet flush in the left restroom, the room I floor and toilet stained with dirt.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children. Also, director was reminded not to use stick pins in the center.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

Finding
591-1-1-.12(5) requires Center Staff to provide table space for each child who is able to sit at a table unassisted and an appropriately sized chair or bench for each child who is not an infant and who is able to use a chair or bench. It was determined based on observation room C and I lacked chairs for the measured capacity of the room and room G tables will be lowered to accommodate the chairs.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide required equipment as noted.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

Finding
591-1-1-.12(6) requires that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area. It was determined based on observation that the following rooms lacked a variety of age appropriate toys in the following areas.
Room A :
Art materials, dramatic play, musical instruments, and science.
Room B1:
dramatic play (dolls)
Room C and Room F
Art materials
Room D:
Add accessories to the doll house, art materials, musical instruments and science.
Room I and K:
Art materials, dramatic play, musical instruments, science, books, manipulates and blocks.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center director will ensure there is a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials in each room for each age group. that are stored on low, open shelves accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

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

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 **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observation that none of the bathrooms in the facility or the classroom had working ventilation during the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

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) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation the air condition was not working in room C and rust observed on back of water hook in all restrooms.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

Finding
591-1-1-.25(6) requires each child's personal items to be kept in individually labeled cubbies, lockers or racks separated from articles used by other children. The spaces shall be accessible to the children to whom they are assigned. It was determined based on observation cubbies were inaccessible in room B2 and H.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide each child with individually labeled and accessible storage.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based observation, the following hazards were observed on playground B: rust spots on fencing and a (2) two to (3) three inch gap at the right from gate. Playground C fencing measured at (3) three feet(8) eight inches due to erosion of soil over the years and screw protusion observed on the fence corner polls and gate polls on playground B and C.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

Finding
591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children.It was determined based on observation that the blue and yellow climbing sturcture on playground C had rust , blue, yellow and red. Trike structure is missing a handle bar and the paint chipped. Also, rust observed on the purple see saw equipment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2025

Finding
591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the playground did not have enough mulch on the playground area.
Playground C:
The red monkey climber lacked the required (3) three inches of mulch under and in the fall zones, the structure measured at (4) four feet in height.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2025

Finding
591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation the following hazards:
On playground A, B, and C :
Uneven surfacing between the hard and soft surfacing creating a tripping hazard (grounds/sideway) basketball court and the ground.
Exposed tree roots on playground A, B, and C.
Playground B and C hanging tree limbs.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) — **Not Met**

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures. Consultant discussed with the director to add a large non porous mat to be used for children too large for diapering table.

Finding
591-1-1-.10(1) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that are renovated after March 1, 1991, to provide ventilation in the diapering areas with functioning exhaust fans and a duct system or by the required amount of window space provided by operable windows when open. It was determined based on observation in diapering rooms room A, Bl, B2, C, and K lacked a working exhaust fan and or operable window space.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The responsible person(s) at the center will ensure that the exhaust fans and duct systems are functioning or that the required amount of operable window space is provided in each diapering area.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

Finding
591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diaper changing pads in diapering rooms A, B1, B2, C, and room K were stained.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 7/29/2025

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) — **Met**

Comment
Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) — **Met**

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) **Met**

Comment
Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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 on this date.

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-.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
Adequate supervision observed on this date.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.