



**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:** 2/6/2026 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:35 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM

**CCLC-68070**

**Brookfield Academy at the Lakes**

469 Lakes Blvd Lake Park, GA 31636 Lowndes County  
(229) 290-7251

Application Services Unit Consultant

Toni Williams

Phone: (770) 302-7628

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toni.williams@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| 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. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/06/2026                  | Initial Licensing Study | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                             |                         |               | <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.                                                                                                                |
|                             |                         |               | <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.                                                                                                                          |
|                             |                         |               | <b>Deficient</b> - 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                           | 1L-Infants (Tadpole)            |           | 0     | 0        | C                             | 10         | C            | NA         | NA           |       |
| Main                           | 1R-Three Year Old (Dragonflies) |           | 0     | 0        | C                             | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           |       |
| Main                           | 2L-One Year Old (Ladybugs)      |           | 0     | 0        | C                             | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           |       |
| Main                           | 2R-Four Year Old (Green Frogs)  |           | 0     | 0        | C                             | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           |       |
| Main                           | 3L-Two Year Old (Caterpillars)  |           | 0     | 0        | C                             | 24         | C            | NA         | NA           |       |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 95 |                                 |           |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |       |
| Total # Children this Date: 0  |                                 |           |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |       |

| Building | Playground         | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Main Playground    | 73                   | C                     |
| Main     | Toddler Playground | 30                   | C                     |

**Comments**

The child care program receive a final license on this date. The facility carries liability insurance. The total capacity is 95.

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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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 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.

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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@decal.ga.gov](mailto: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 Initial Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

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

Met

**Comment**

Consultant discussed adding art to all classrooms and ensuring that it is on low shelves and accessible to the children.

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured.

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

N/A

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on site.

### Facility

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

Met

**Comment**

Consultant advised the Director to please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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

Met

**Comment**

A final license was granted, the overall capacity was 95.

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

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(13) - The Consultant discussed with the provider to keep brooms and toilet brushes up and away so they are not accessible to children. Also it was discussed to make sure that all storage areas are locked and hazards are not accessible to the children. Lastly, there were some chairs and table legs that were rusted in the four-year-old classroom that needed repair.

**Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026**

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

Not Met

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - The consultant discussed with the provider that a fence separating two play areas is not required by the agency but the fence surrounding the air conditioning unit was 3.8 inches tall when 4 feet or more is required for a barrier. The consultant discussed with the provider options that could be used to bring the current fence to four feet or surround the air conditioning unit with a four foot barrier.

**Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026**

**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 that the large concrete step down from the two-year old and four -year old playground entrance greater than a six foot step down and was a tripping hazard. Also the concrete stairs leading from the four-year-old classroom was cracked and needed repair.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a ramp that allows the children to step down evenly onto the playground or they will enclose the area and provide a ramp and handles for the entrance onto the playground.

**Correction Deadline: 4/7/2026**

**Food Service****591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date. The kitchen had a three sink compartment.

**Health and Hygiene****591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff stated proper procedures. Sinks with warm running water observed adjacent to proper diapering surfaces in all classrooms approved for diapering.

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

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Met****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

There were no children enrolled on this date. The center's discipline policy was reviewed on this date. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

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

An annual inspection and an inspection of the vehicle used, insurance, registration, first aid kit and fire extinguisher were also observed to be completed on this date.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment****591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Consultant observed Twelve (12) of twelve (12) cribs meeting safety compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards manufactured in (2012, 2013, 2024, 2025). Consultant discussed safe sleeping requirements with the director during the inspection visit.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined based on observation that three of the five classroom's cots were not covered and accessible to the children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will store cots and mats so children do not have access to them and they don't take up play space and will store them so each child's bedding is separate from the others.

**Correction Deadline: 2/13/2026**

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

Eight (8) of eight (8) staff records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file.

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

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper ratios and classroom capacities were discussed with the director on this date.

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

A supervision plan was created on this date for the playground. The playground has a blind spot on the left side and right side. A teacher should be positioned on each side supervising while the children are on the playground.

**Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper supervision of children, including being prompt to children's needs, was discussed with the director on this date.