



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: 5/12/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 12:45 PM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

CCLC-38647

Laughter & Lullabies Childcare Academy

413 East Spring Street Monroe, GA 30655 Walton County
(770) 771-4944 laughterlullabiescca@gmail.com

Lead Consultant

Rebekah Mullinax

Phone: (770) 357-7056

Fax: (770) 357-7055

rebekah.mullinax@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
05/12/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/15/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/05/2024	Licensing Study	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 Front	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B: 1R	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C: Back R	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	24	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D: Back Left		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 82		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 25			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 82		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Preschool	79	C
Main	B - Infant/Toddler	19	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	5	12	9	11	0	20

Comments

The findings of the report were reviewed with the Assistant Director.

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.decgal.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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decgal.ga.gov 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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Met

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

591-1-1-26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

591-1-1-17 Hygiene(CR)

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 10/15/2024****Corrected on 5/12/2025**

.20(4) - Previous citation corrected in that the consultant did not observe medication accessible to children on this date.

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

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

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that there was a large cooler and a box of storage items in the back of the bus near the exit door.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 5/13/2025**Sleeping & Resting Equipment****591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation that an infant in classroom C: Back R was asleep on a boppy pillow for approximately 17 minutes.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will only place infants in safe cribs to sleep and will transfer them to a safe crib when the infants are asleep in other equipment.

Correction Deadline: 5/12/2025**Staff Records****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided two files for employees hired since last visit.

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
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Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.