



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:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 1:10 PM **Departure:** 4:45 PM

CCLC-48291

Little Minds 1st Academy

1730 Tuscan Heights Boulevard Kennesaw, GA 30152 Cobb
County
(678) 800-1116 aharris@littleminds1st-academy.com

Regional Consultant

Alison Benson

Phone: (866) 369-6921

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alison.benson@dec.al.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	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/10/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/30/2024	Complaint Closure	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- Left side 1st Left		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	
Main	B- Left side 2nd Left	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C- Left side 2nd Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	C	30	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E - Left side 1st Right		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	
Main	G- Middle		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	Right side 1st Right - L	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding
Main	Right side 2nd Right - K		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	Right side 4th Right - I		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main	Right side 5th Right - H		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	Right side 6th Right - F	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Story,Diapering
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			162		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 32			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A-6wk-2yr	40	C
Main	B-Preschool	58	C
Main	C-School Age	63	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	11	10	9	21	0	5

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a License Study Visit and to follow-up from the previous visit.

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.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:

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 for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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Same

The following information is associated with a LS:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 22

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90
calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

The center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 22

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90
calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 22**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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.

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Health and Hygiene**Records Reviewed: 22****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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 was observed throughout the center on this date.

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

No medication is being dispensed at this time.

Policies and Procedures**Records Reviewed: 22****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Comment

The program was observed to complete emergency drills as required.

Safety**Records Reviewed: 22****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Records Reviewed: 22****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 22****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on review of staff records, employee #4 with a hire date of July 28, 2025 did not complete a new criminal records check to the center at their start date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

1-day letter issued August 26, 2025.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on review of staff records, employee #4 with a hire date of July 28, 2025 did not have a portable criminal records check on file. The portability for the criminal records check was July 23, 2025 and the employee was hired at the center on July 28, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

1-day letter issued August 26, 2025.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

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

Documentation was observed of required staff training.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Records Reviewed: 22****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Met****Comment**

The center was observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

Adequate supervision was observed on this date.