



**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:** 2/10/2025 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 12:00 PM **Departure:** 2:55 PM

**CCLC-1444**

**Cherokee Academy At Clayton**

1205 Upper Burris Rd. Canton, GA 30114 Cherokee County  
(770) 479-4404 cherokeeacademy1@gmail.com

Special Investigations Unit Sr. Specialist

Lesley Barrett

Phone: (404) 478-8125

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**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

| <u>Compliance Zone Designation</u> |                                    |               | <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. |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/10/2025                         | Incident Investigation & Follow Up | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 09/23/2024                         | Licensing Study                    | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/01/2024                         | 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 hall-1st left - Pre-K 2              | GA PreK                   | 2                               | 13       | C    | 20                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap, Transitioning   |
| Main                           | B- left side hall-2nd right- 3 yr old             | Three Year Olds           | 2                               | 11       | C    | 13                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                  |
| Main                           | C- left side hall-1st right -Infants              | Infants and One Year Olds | 2                               | 7        | C    | 12                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play, Snack    |
| Main                           | D- Middle Back - Toddlers                         | One Year Olds             | 2                               | 7        | C    | 16                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                  |
| Main                           | E- right side hall-2nd right- Front Room-2 yr old | Two Year Olds             | 2                               | 14       | C    | 21                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                  |
| Main                           | F- right side hall- 2nd right- back room-3 yrs.   | Three Year Olds           | 1                               | 14       | C    | 14                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                  |
| Main                           | G- Right side 1st right -Pre-K 1                  | GA PreK                   | 2                               | 12       | C    | 26                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Snack, Transitioning |
|                                |                                                   |                           | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                      |
| Total # Children this Date: 78 |                                                   |                           | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                      |

| Building | Playground              | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground A- Left Side | 20                   | C                     |

|      |                          |    |   |
|------|--------------------------|----|---|
| Main | Playground B- Rear       | 94 | C |
| Main | Playground C- Right Side | 58 | C |

### Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct an incident investigation and follow up the previous visit conducted on September 24, 2024.

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.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.

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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 user id 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@decgal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decgal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation & Follow Up:

**Children's Records**

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.08(2) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed immunization documentation for children #1 - #4.

**Facility**

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

Defer

**Defer**

591-1-1-.25(3)-The previously cited rule violation will be deferred until the next regulatory visit.

**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: 9/30/2024

**Health and Hygiene**

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.17(7) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed staff members ensure that children's hands were washed when required.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.17(8) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed staff members ensure that their hands were washed when required

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.20(1) - The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.36(4)(b) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed that the interior of the transportation vehicle was in good repair and free of hazardous items.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.36(7)(a) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed that the center's transportation vehicle contained current information for all the children being transported on the center's transportation vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.36(7)(b) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed that center had properly maintained the emergency medical information for each child being transported by the center in the center's transportation vehicle.

**Staff Records**

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.09(1)(c) - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.09(1)(l)3. - Previously cited rule violation was corrected on this date. Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.