



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 7/26/2022    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up    **Arrival:** 1:30 PM    **Departure:** 4:00 PM

**CCLC-38373**

**Buford Children's Academy**

4440 Commerce Drive Buford, GA 30518 Gwinnett County  
 (678) 765-7870 bufordchildrensacademy@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Beverly Pollard

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**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
07/26/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing
04/21/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing
12/17/2021	Monitoring Visit	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	A - 1R	Three Year Olds	2	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B - 2R	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	C - 3R		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D - 4R		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E - Rear		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F - 3L		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	G - 2L	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	14	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	H - 1L	Infants	1	4	C	14	C	NA	NA	Floor Play

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 150

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 36

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 150

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Left	24	C
Main	B - Middle	169	C
Main	C - Right	66	C

### Comments

The investigation remains open on this date, pending additional information. Upon completion the finding will be reviewed with the provider and a final copy of the report will be sent.

The purpose of this visit was to follow up to the visit conducted on April 21, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/26/2022

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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



### 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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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](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.'

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)

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Vanessa Persaud, Program Official

Date

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Beverly Pollard, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 7/26/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation **Arrival:** 1:30 PM **Departure:** 4:00 PM  
Follow Up

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/21/2022**

**Corrected on 7/26/2022**

**.12(2) - The plastic container was observed to be removed on this date.**

**Correction Deadline: 4/21/2022**

**Corrected on 7/26/2022**

**.12(3) - The tables were observed to be upright on this date.**

**Children's Records**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program.

It was determined based on review of records that three of five children's files did not have documentation of the parents' work telephone number, one of five children's files did not have documentation of the emergency contact person's name and telephone number, and one of five children's files did not have documentation of the release to persons' address.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

**Correction Deadline: 7/26/2022**

**Recited on 7/26/2022**

	<b>Facility</b>
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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/21/2022**

**Corrected on 7/26/2022**

**.25(17) - The vines were observed to be removed on this date.**

**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 that the following areas were not free of debris and in need of repair:

- Classroom A-1R - Uncovered protruding screws were observed on one side of the left toilet in the front right side of the classroom.
- Classroom C-3R - An inoperable toilet was observed in the second front right restroom. The front right sinks were observed to be inoperable located on the front right side of the classroom.
- Classroom F-3L - The first right toilet was observed to be inoperable in the restroom located on the front right side of the classroom.
- Classroom D-4R - Inoperable toilets were observed in both 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: 7/26/2022**

**Recited on 7/26/2022**

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

**Not Met**

**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 following playground equipment posed a significant safety hazard to the children:

- Playground A-Left - There was a small inflatable pool with standing water under the canopy.
- Playground B-Middle - The white and blue toy bin contained broken toys and trash located on the front left side of the playground, a red tricycle was missing both handle cover on the front right side of the playground. Chipped paint was observed throughout the green and yellow canopy, and the front right corner of the yellow canopy was cracked located on the back left side of the playground. There was a blue metal piece of equipment with rings that was dismantled, and a blue, round sand table with standing water near the back classroom door.
- Playground C-Right - The green and yellow wooden canopy contained rotting wood and chipped paint, and the large wooden climber/slide/swing set was not operable and had blue tape around the ladder, ramp and slide, located on the front right side of the playground.

**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: 7/26/2022**

**Recited on 7/26/2022**

**Correction Deadline: 5/1/2022**

**Corrected on 7/26/2022**

**.26(8) - This was corrected.**

**Correction Deadline: 4/21/2022**

**Corrected on 7/26/2022**

**.26(9) - This was observed to be corrected.**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/21/2022**

**Corrected on 7/26/2022**

**.10(4) - The diaper changing pad was observed to be repaired.**

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 10**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 03/22/2016	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 08/20/2020	
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 09/06/2016	
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 10/28/2021	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 03/21/2022	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 03/07/2022	

**Records Reviewed: 10**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 10

Met

Date of Hire: 06/24/2021

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/21/2022**

**Corrected on 7/26/2022**

**.09(1)(c) - The criminal background check was complete on this date.**

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 5/21/2022**

**Corrected on 7/26/2022**

**.14(1) - 100% of staff were observed to have current CPR and first aid training.**

**Correction Deadline: 5/21/2022**

**Corrected on 7/26/2022**

**.14(2) - 100% of staff were observed to have current CPR and first aid training.**

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

**Defer**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I) - (VIII)- This rule will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's and ensure that the teacher's follow the plan.

**Correction Deadline: 4/21/2022**