



**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:** 3/1/2021      **VisitType:** POI Follow Up      **Arrival:** 9:00 AM      **Departure:** 9:35 AM

**CCLC-1624**

**A Willow Path**

1047 Fury's Ferry Road Evans, GA 30809 Columbia County  
 (706) 868-6061 appletreeacademyii@att.net

**Regional Consultant**

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455  
 Fax: (706) 434-7640  
 melyn.smith@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
03/01/2021	POI Follow Up	Good Standing
02/04/2021	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing
01/19/2021	Licensing Study	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	1st Back Right		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA						
Main	1st Front Right		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA						
Main	1st Left Rear	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers					
Main	2nd Back Right		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA						
Main	2nd Front Right	One Year Olds	10	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Free Play					
Main	2nd Left Rear	PreK	2	13	C	24	C	NA	NA	Circle Time					
Main	3rd Left Rear		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA						
Main	4th Left Rear	PreK	2	9	C	19	C	NA	NA	Circle Time					
Main	5th Rear		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA						
Main	Left Front	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	33	C	NA	NA	Centers					
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 187						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0									
Total # Children this Date: 52						Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 187					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG- Left Side	71	C
Main	PG-Center Rear/Right Area	100	C
Main	PG-Right Side	25	C

**Comments**

A virtual inspection was conducted on March 1, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on February 15, 2021 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

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.al.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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.al.ga.gov).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.al.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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 New Deadlines:**

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.al.ga.gov/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov)

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Tiffany Futo, Program Official

Date

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Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a POI Follow Up:

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**Records Reviewed: 17****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2016	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 11/09/2020	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 07/27/2020	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 02/09/2021	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 01/11/1999	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 11/01/2019	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 02/02/2021	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 07/31/2019	

**Records Reviewed: 17**

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

Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 02/02/2021	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 03/15/1993	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 07/18/2016	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 02/20/2018	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 08/04/2020	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 07/31/2019	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 07/31/2019	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 11/27/2017	Met
Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 08/07/2019	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 9**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

**Corrected on 3/1/2021**

**.32(1) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that all classrooms were observed to be operating within appropriate staff:child ratios on this date during the virtual walk through.**

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

**Corrected on 3/1/2021**

**.32(4)(a) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that children under three were observed housed in separate areas from older children on this date during the virtual walk through.**

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

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

**Corrected on 3/1/2021**

**.32(7) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that adequate supervision was observed on this date during the virtual walk through. The Director stated that staff have been instructed to walk around and interact with children on the playground to provide direct supervision and watchful oversight while on the playground.**