



**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:** 5/5/2020    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 1:35 PM    **Departure:** 3:15 PM

**CCLC-48713**

**The Children's Academy**

16 O'Neill Street Rome, GA 30161 Floyd County  
 (706) 234-0800 AprilRogersTCA@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Rachael Brown

Phone: (770) 342-7795  
 Fax: (678) 891-5887  
 rachael.brown@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

PO Box 106  
 Lindale, GA 30147

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
05/05/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/28/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
05/22/2019	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	A1-1st Left	Infants and One Year Olds	3	6	C	14	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding
Main	B-2L	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C-3L	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D-1st Right	One Year Olds	2	9	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	F-3R	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	18	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 73						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 51			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 73			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main	23	C

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on May 5, 2020. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on June 11, 2020 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on May 12, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

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.dec.state.ga.us/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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 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.state.ga.us/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.

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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 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.state.ga.us/>  
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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

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April Rogers, Program Official

Date

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Rachael Brown, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 5/5/2020      **VisitType:** Licensing Study      **Arrival:** 1:35 PM      **Departure:** 3:15 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**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.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 5**

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

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**Facility**

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**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms** **Met**

**Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted on this date due to COVID-19. Licensed capacity was observed to be met by center on this date.

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

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted on this date due to COVID-19. No hazards were directly observed on this date. Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)** **Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted on this date due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed on the next regulatory visit in person.

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**Food Service**

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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition** **Met**

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**Comment**

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations** **Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted on this date due to COVID-19 pandemic. Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date.

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

**Comment**

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures** **Not Evaluated**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(3) - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 5/10/2020

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**591-1-1-.22 Parental Access**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.22 - Parent access restricted to outside of children's assigned classroom due to COVID-19 pandemic and Executive Order Checklist.

Correction Deadline: 5/5/2020

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**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**

**Met**

**Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

**Safety**

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**591-1-1-.05 Animals**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.11(2) - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Director on this date.

Correction Deadline: 5/5/2020

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(2) - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Safe sleep was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper safe sleep and storage were discussed with the Director on this date.

Correction Deadline: 5/5/2020

**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 8**

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

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 07/01/2018

Staff # 2

Met

**Records Reviewed: 8**

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

Date of Hire: 09/04/2019

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 08/19/2019

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 07/22/2019

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 01/13/2020

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 03/01/2018

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 03/01/2018

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 07/16/2018

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**

**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-.14 First Aid & CPR Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.14(3) - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

**Correction Deadline: 5/15/2020**

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met**

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

**Comment**

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on May 12, 2020.

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.