



**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: 3/28/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 1:05 PM **Departure:** 6:00 PM

CCLC-35299

Apple Tree Prep

810 Olympic Drive Athens, GA 30601 Clarke County
(706) 546-9446 debra@appletreeprep.com

Regional Consultant

Dianne Clarke

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Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/28/2023	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing
03/16/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/28/2022	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	1L	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap,Diapering
Main	1R	GA PreK	2	19	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	2L	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	2R		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	3L	Three Year Olds	2	21	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	3R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	18	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	4L	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	16	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	5L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	19	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	6L	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 177

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 124

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 177

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - Infant/Toddler	25	C
Main	Playground B - Preschool	48	C
Main	Playground C - Field	38	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.

Reminders: Refer to the published communicable disease chart for guidance regarding communicable diseases. In most scenarios, only outbreaks/clusters should be reported to the local health districts.

Please be sure to contact the Clarke County Department of Health, if there are outbreaks/clusters of positive COVID-19 cases immediately, and get their guidance. Please be sure to also complete a Required Report in DECAL KOALA for all individual cases of communicable diseases within 24 hours. Be sure to select "Notifiable Communicable Diseases" to report closures for COVID cases.

You must be sure to enter all temporary closures (vacation, emergencies, holidays etc...) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily because you are not caring for children for one day or more.

Incident Reports are to be submitted via DECAL KOALA with all signed staff statements for staff and the director.

All amendments are required to be electronically entered in DECAL KOALA effective August 2, 2021.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

Please ensure that director and staff responsible for food preparation completes the four (4) hours of nutrition training as soon as possible but within the first year of employment.

For centers conducting transportation, please remember that the transportation training certificates must be renewed every two years for everyone participating in transportation including the director. Please ensure that directors ensure that they also complete the transportation training upon being hired at the center.

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.decga.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!

Debra Pittman-Davis, Program Official

Date

Dianne Clarke, Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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

Facility

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.26(4)- The correction deadline of March 31, 2023 has not yet passed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/21/2023

Corrected on 3/28/2023

.21(3) - The previous citation was observed to be completed in that the 2022 and 2023 fire drill form was observed. Please ensure to complete the fire drill forms and maintain them on file at all times.

Staff Records

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.14(2)-The correction deadline of April 15, 2023 has not yet passed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2023

Corrected on 3/28/2023

.33(3) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the staff completed the Health and Safety Orientation Training. Please ensure that staff completes their training within the required 90 period at all times.