



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: 9/16/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:35 AM **Departure:** 1:40 PM

CCLC-46234

Akim Academy

4065 Hwy. 441 South Douglas, GA 31535 Coffee County
 (912) 384-0876 akimacademy@gmail.com

Mailing Address

4065 Hwy. 441 S.
 Douglas, GA 31533

Regional Consultant

Beth Houtz

Phone: (229) 238-2130

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beth.houtz@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Melissa Herndon

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
09/16/2019	Monitoring Visit	Deficient	
05/21/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/20/2018	Licensing Study	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-B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Centers
Main	C		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	D		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	E		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	F	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	TV, Transitioning, Lunch
Main	H		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	I		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Main	J		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	K		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 121

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 22

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 121

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	12	C
Main	B	43	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is a monitoring visit and a follow up for any previous rule citations. The center does not care for infants and does not provide transportation.

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.decal.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@decal.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://decal.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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov

Ida Mendoza, Program Official

Date

Melissa Herndon, Consultant

Date

Beth Houtz, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 9/16/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:35 AM **Departure:** 1:40 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities **Met**

Comment

Please ensure all lesson plans are dated and posted.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

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

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **Met**

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.06(6) requires Center Staff to equip bathrooms with soap, toilet tissue and single-use towels or cloth towels used only once between launderings. It was determined based on observation that the girls' bathroom located on the bottom floor was not equipped with paper towels or soap.

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Correction Deadline: 9/17/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.06(7) requires Center Staff to ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the boys' bathroom located on the second floor in the second stall had feces on the back of the toilet and on the rim of the toilet seat and had not been cleaned.

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Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

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

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR) Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were accessible to children in care.

- In the three and four-year-old classroom there was a can of Febreze under the hand washing sink, a bottle of Germ-X on the window sill, and in an unlocked cabinet a bottle of multipurpose cleaner.
- In the bathrooms on the first floor there was a plunger in both the boys' and girls' restrooms.
- In the bathroom of the one and two-year-old classroom there was a toilet bowl brush next to the toilet.
- In the one and two-year-old classroom there was a bottle of Germ-X.
- In the school-age room on the second floor the cabinet was unlocked and a bottle of Grease Lightning, Lysol, and glass cleaner were accessible. Additionally, a broom and dust pan were in the corner.

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Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that one outlet in the three and four-year-old classroom and one outlet in the one and two-year-old classroom did not have the protective covers as required and were accessible to the children in care.

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Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

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 potential hazard to children in care.

-On the back playground the Little Tike slide was broken on the side and the plastic had sharp edges and there was a metal chair that was rusted and missing the back. Additionally, there was a broken metal pole that was sticking up out of the ground.

-On the front playground there was a broken play grill, basketball goal, and green riding toy with sharp plastic edges.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were present on the playgrounds and accessible to children in care.

-On the back playground there was a mushroom cap under the log at the back of the playground.

-On the front playground there was an active ant bed that measured 18 inches in width on the edge of the fence on the side of the playground and a second active ant bed behind the playhouse with the purple roof.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2019

Corrected on 9/16/2019

.18(5) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The consultant observed milk put away and not left out.

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2019

Corrected on 9/16/2019

.18(7) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Dishes were observed to be washed and put away in the kitchen.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. The consultant observed two children in the one and two-year-old classroom with a pacifier attached to their clothing. The consultant discussed with the classroom staff about removing the attachment piece of the pacifier and just allowing the children to have the pacifier.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

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

Met

Comment

The center does not care for infants. The consultant discussed requirements for diapering with the staff and director on this date. The consultant went over the two step cleaning and sanitizing steps for the changing table with the classroom staff.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.17(6) requires garbage and organic waste to be stored in containers that are lined with plastic liners and have tight-fitting covers. Trash and garbage shall be removed from the building daily or as often as necessary to maintain the premises in a clean condition. It was determined based on observation that in the one and two-year-old classroom there was a dirty pull up and diaper wipe in a trash can that did not have a lid in the bathroom. Additionally, in the special use activity classroom there was no lid on the trash can.,

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Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

Finding

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that a three-year-old child did not wash their hands after using the restroom and before returning to play as required.

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Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.20(1) requires Personnel to obtain specific written authorization from the child's physician or parent in order to dispense prescription or non-prescription medications, except for first aid. Such authorization will include when applicable, date; full name of the child; name of the medication; prescription number, if any; dosage; the dates to be given; the time of day to be dispensed; and signature of parent. It was determined based on a review of records that three of five records had "as needed" listed as the time for the medication to be given and three of five records were missing the dates the medication was to be given.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.20(3) requires the Center to maintain a record of medication dispensed that includes the date, time and amount of medication, any noticeable adverse reaction, and the signature or initials of the person administering the medication. The consultant observed four of five records to have no dispense record documented for medication listed for dispensing "as needed" and on one of five records for medication to be dispensed for the week of August 19-23, 2019, there was no dispensing documentation for August 22, 2019.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

Policies and Procedures

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that no fire drills were documented for the months of May and June of 2019. Additionally, no tornado or lock down drills had been documented for 2019.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.27 requires each Center to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request. It was determined based on observation that a current menu for the week of September 16 - 20, 2019 was not posted as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

Safety

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2019

Corrected on 9/16/2019

.11(2) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The consultant observed redirection and discussion.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on observation that there were eleven of twelve mats in the three and four-year-old classroom that had tears on the side with the foam exposed and five of twelve mats in the one and two-year-old classroom that had tears on the side with the inside foam exposed preventing the rest mat from being waterproof and washable as required.

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Correction Deadline: 9/30/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 11

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 6

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/17/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/12/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-10 Yr. Work History Missing

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/30/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 8 Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/06/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 9 Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/06/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/03/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Not Met

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Correction Deadline: 6/20/2019

Corrected on 9/16/2019

.14(1) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Seven of eleven employees had documentation of completing a first aid and CPR training course.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that three of eleven staff, hired after September 30, 2016, did not have documentation of completing a hands-on first aid and CPR course within 90 days of their hire date as required.

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Correction Deadline: 10/14/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.24(1) - The consultant discussed with the center about ensuring all staff files include an application with a ten year work history.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2019

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment that will count toward required annual training: Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined based on a review of staff files that four of eleven staff members do not have proof of completion of the required health and safety training.

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Correction Deadline: 9/20/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

Defer

591-1-1-.33(6) - This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit due to the 2018 annual training being reviewed at the regulatory visit on May 21, 2019.

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Correction Deadline: 6/20/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.33(7) requires that evidence of orientation and training be documented in the Personnel file of each Staff member and be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of staff files that two of eleven staff members did not have proof of completion of orientation training or incomplete orientation training form in their employee files.

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Correction Deadline: 9/17/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times and that the persons supervising in the child care area be alert, able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the chaperones and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. It was determined based on observation that a three-year-old child walked down the hallway, past two classrooms, the lunchroom, into the girls' bathroom by herself and was unsupervised for three minutes while they used the restroom. Additionally, two children left the three and four-year-old classroom and went into the activity room and were unsupervised for two minutes.

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Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019

Recited on 9/16/2019