



**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:** 3/28/2019    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 12:30 PM    **Departure:** 3:30 PM

**CCLC-13339**

**Akers Academy (Alpharetta)**

830 Old Alpharetta Rd Alpharetta, GA 30005 Forsyth County  
 (770) 889-0788 lmitch05@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Mandi Sloan

Phone: (770) 357-5097

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mandi.sloan@dec.al.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
03/28/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/28/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/28/2018	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 1R	Infants	2	5	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Feeding
Main	B 2R		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	C 3R	Four Year Olds	1	4	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D 4R		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	E 5R	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	F 6R	PreK	2	12	C	24	C	NA	NA	Nap,Transitioning
Main	G Bk End	PreK	2	20	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	H 4L		0	0	C	33	C	NA	NA	
Main	I 3L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	J 2L	Four Year Olds	1	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	K 1L	Three Year Olds	1	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 217						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 89						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	68	C
Main	Playground B	145	C
Main	Playground C	60	C

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a Monitoring Visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/28/2019

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

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.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.

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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Krista Whitney, Program Official

Date

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Mandi Sloan, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure objects are secured to the wall and not stacked too high to prevent tipping.

**Correction Deadline: 3/28/2019**

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

Met

#### 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

**Correction Deadline: 8/28/2018**

Corrected on 3/28/2019

.08(1) - Previous citation corrected on this date as five of five children's records contained complete enrollment information.

	<b>Facility</b>
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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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**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 in "Georgia Pre K One" one container of sanitizing wipes were observed in an unlocked cabinet, accessible to children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 3/28/2019**

**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 are not in good repair:

Room 1R (infant) - The floor near the classroom door is cracked and in need of repair.

Room 4L (after school) - There are two areas where the carpet is ripped and frayed in two places.

**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: 3/28/2019**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that the fence separating the left and back playgrounds (near the back of the play area) is not in good repair as the top pole has come unattached from the back fence, leaving the top wires exposed. Further, on the back playground, the fence near the water drain has become loose from the top pole leaving wires exposed.

**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: 3/28/2019**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure the toys on the infant and toddler playgrounds are maintained and kept in good repair to ensure they do not pose a safety hazard to the children.

**Correction Deadline: 4/7/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that there was zero inches of resilient surface surrounding the slide equipment on the right playground and that there was less than one inch of resilient surface surrounding the slide equipment on the back playground.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

**Correction Deadline: 4/7/2019**

**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 pieces of PVC pipe had come loose from the barriers surrounding the play equipment on the back and right playground, potentially causing a tripping hazard.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 3/28/2019**

## Health and Hygiene

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Correction Deadline: 8/28/2018**

**Corrected on 3/28/2019**

**.17(7) - Previous citation corrected on this date as staff interviewed stated knowledge of proper hand washing. Further, children were observed a group of pre-kindergarten children to wash hands upon transition from lunch to nap.**

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

**Comment**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures. Provider stated not currently dispensing medication.

## Safety

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on review of records that a mark/ symbol was not present during the following routine transportation:

March 21, 2019: four children were not marked unloaded during afternoon transportation from Brookwood Elementary

March 12, 2019: three children were not marked unloaded during afternoon transportation from Brookwood Elementary

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

**Correction Deadline: 3/29/2019**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 19**

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

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 07/25/2018	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 07/30/2018	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 07/16/2018	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 07/18/2018	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 11/20/2017	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 02/28/2019	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 09/21/2004	

**Records Reviewed: 19**

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

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Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 03/10/2019	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 05/05/2005	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 07/03/2016	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 08/16/2010	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 01/26/2017	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 06/16/2008	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 04/24/2006	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 03/20/2019	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 10/21/2013	Met
Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 07/29/2016	Met
Staff # 18 Date of Hire: 05/16/2016	Met
Staff # 19 Date of Hire: 02/27/2019	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 19**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.



<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.