



**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: 2/25/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 12:30 PM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-27756

Echols Learning Academy

3900 Bakers Ferry Road Atlanta, GA 30331 Fulton County
(404) 696-5009 jamesjechols@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Michelle Smith

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Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
02/25/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
02/24/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/23/2019	Complaint Closure	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	A- Far Left		0	0	C	14	C	19	C	Not In Use
Main	B (first left)	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C (First Right)		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 40						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 45				
Total # Children this Date: 3			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 40			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 45				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Outside	48	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on February 5, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on February 25, 2021 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.

Continue to adhere to the most recent Executive Order issued on February 15, 2021.
Consultant discussed Required Reporting rule changes.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/25/2021

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

Ebony Robbs, Program Official

Date

Michelle Smith, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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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

A Virtual Visit was conducted and the equipment and furniture was observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through there was no pool observed on the property.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted and the licensed capacity was observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.25(3)- Consultant will evaluate this rule during the next regulatory visit scheduled.

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: 3/6/2020

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through the playground area was observed and appeared to be in good repair. Continue to monitor the playground for weather related debris, and equipment that may be effected by heavy rains.

Food Service

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.15(3)- A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 2/25/2020

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2020

Corrected on 2/25/2021

.18(8) - Consultant observe the food items to be in it's original packages, and labeled properly.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date. During the virtual walk through the diapering was discussed and the provider displayed proper knowledge of the rules and regulations.

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements were discussed with the Director on this date. During the virtual walk through the diapering was discussed and the provider displayed proper knowledge of the rules and regulations.

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per the provider medication was not dispensed.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2020

Corrected on 2/25/2021

.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.

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

Met

Comment

Per the Executive Order the Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per the provider there was no routine transportation provided.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through SIDS and infant sleeping position was discussed. Per the Director infants are placed on their backs to sleep, and supervised at all times.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 2**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 08/14/2017

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/14/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 0

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

Consultant observed one Center Director and one Center Staff to have valid Satisfactory Comprehensive Criminal Records Check Determination letters issued by the Department as required.

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 orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined was determined based on review of records that one Center Director hired on July 15, 2019, did not complete the required health and safety training within the first 90 days as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2021

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)- A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Previously Cited: The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2020

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 most recent Executive Order issued on February 15, 2021.

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2020

Corrected on 2/25/2021

.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I) - (VIII) - Consultant observed one Center Staff and one Center Director to have valid evidence of an educational credential as required.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through appropriate ratios was observed.

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through adequate supervision was observed.