



**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: 9/17/2019 **VisitType:** POI Follow Up **Arrival:** 12:20 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		
09/17/2019	POI Follow Up	Good Standing
08/12/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
04/23/2019	POI Follow Up	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	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	0	11	NC	14	C	19	C	Nap
Main	B (first left)	One Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C (First Right)	One Year Olds	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: 17			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 40			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 45				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Outside	48	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a POI follow up as follow up to the visit conducted 8.12.19. Consultant discussed and reviewed report with Center Director on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/17/2019

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.

- 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

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 POI Follow Up:

Safety

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/12/2019

Corrected on 9/17/2019

.36(1)(a) - Consultant observed a valid driver's license on file as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/16/2019

Corrected on 9/17/2019

.36(3)(a-b) - Consultant observed Driver to have a valid and completed transportation training document on file this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/13/2019

Corrected on 9/17/2019

.36(7)(c)3. - Consultant observed completed transportation documentation on file for the September 2-September 17, 2019.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 1

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 11/05/2018

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 0

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 8/12/2019

Corrected on 9/17/2019

.09(1)(a) - Consultant observed four (4) of four (4) Center Staff to have valid Satisfactory Comprehensive Criminal Records Check Determination letters issued by the Department on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/12/2019

Corrected on 9/17/2019

.09(1)(c) - Consultant observed four (4) of four (4) Center Staff to have valid Satisfactory Comprehensive Criminal Records Check Determination letters on file this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on review of records that one Center Staff hired November 5, 2018 did not have a ported criminal records check determination letter issued to current employer as required by the Department on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will watch training videos to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will conduct staff meetings and training to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2019

Recited on 9/17/2019

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/17/2019

Corrected on 9/17/2019

.24(1) - Consultant observed employee files to be present and available upon request.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.33(6)-Consultant will evaluate this rule during the next regulatory visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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: 4/5/2019

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/12/2019

Corrected on 9/17/2019

.31(2)(c) - Consultant observed lead teacher credentials and educational plans on file for staff employed.

Staffing and Supervision

Finding

591-1-1-.32(5) requires that during day-time rest or sleeping periods, at least one Staff person is in each room providing direct supervision of the children and all Staff required by these rules relating to Staff: child ratios are in the Center and available to assure safe evacuation in an emergency. Staff: child ratios may be doubled for children three (3) years and older provided these requirements are met. It was determined based on observation that the first left and Far left classrooms did not have appropriate ratios when 14 two-year-old and three-year old children, and 11 one-year-old children were supervised by one Center Staff for more than 20 minutes in different classrooms.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will rearrange staff schedules to ensure the required number of staff are in each room and available. Hire additional staff to assist with breaks and other transitions.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2019

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**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 one-year-old, two-year-old, and three-year-old children were not properly supervised when one Center Staff transitioned from the Far left classroom to the first right classroom for 25 minutes.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times. Hires additional staff to assist with breaks.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2019