



**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: 7/18/2018 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:20 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-39109

The Learning Academy of Georgia

3620 Highlands Parkway, SE Smyrna, GA 30080 Cobb County
(678) 293-6990 tanesha.nichols@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Courtney Moody

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Mailing Address

3620 Highlands Parkway, SE
Smyrna, GA 30082

Quality Rated: No

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.
07/18/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/22/2018	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
05/22/2018	Complaint Closure	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- 1L	Infants	3	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B- 2L	One Year Olds	3	11	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C- 2R	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	15	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	D- 1R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	13	C	19	C	Story
Main	E-Back	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	9	C	9	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 63						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 69				
Total # Children this Date: 55			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 63			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 69				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	21	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/18/2018

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).



Reminder: All employees of child care programs must be fingerprinted before **January 1, 2017**. For instructions and to submit records check applications online, please visit www.decalkoala.com. You are encouraged not to wait and to complete the process as soon as possible.

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.al.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://dec.al.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). Sign up for Quality Rated by June 30, 2018 in order to be eligible to receive a bonus package.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.al.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@dec.al.ga.gov

Tanesha Nichols, Program Official

Date

Courtney Moody, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 7/18/2018 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:20 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

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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 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-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Met

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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 two red trikes were missing hand grips, with metal sharp edges exposed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2018

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 there was a trail of ants from the side walk to the back fence near the 2R classroom.

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: 7/18/2018

Food Service

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2) requires that a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age shall be obtained from Parent(s) and that instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the child's assigned room and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on observation that seven infant feeding plans were not up to date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis that will include center staff involved with enrollment and those working in the infant classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 7/18/2018

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

Discussed cleaning debris on changing table under the changing pad.

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

Not Met

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 staff statements that children were not made to wash their hands after diapering.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 7/18/2018

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on staff statements that staff do not wash their hands before and after diapering.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 7/18/2018

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that the time, number of children, and length of drill is completed on each emergency drill form.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2018

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 11****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 05/16/2017

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 06/13/2018

Records Reviewed: 11

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 03/20/2017	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 04/10/2017	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 12/18/2017	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 06/19/2018	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 01/29/2018	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 02/12/2018	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 02/29/2016	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 05/17/2018	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 02/18/2016	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 11

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR) **Met**

Comment

Director provided four files for employees hired since last visit.

Correction Deadline: 5/22/2018

Corrected on 7/18/2018

.09(1)(d) - Previous citation observed corrected.

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

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center.

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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)

Met

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.