



**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:** 5/14/2020    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 4:00 PM    **Departure:** 5:00 PM

**CCLC-47213**

**Grace Academy**

25 County Shop Road Ludowici, GA 31316 Long County  
 (912) 545-9255 graceacademyteam@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Jerica Davis

Phone: (478) 314-9452  
 Fax: (478) 314-9443  
 jerica.davis@decals.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
05/14/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/31/2019	POI Follow Up	Good Standing
10/08/2019	Monitoring Visit	Support

**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		
Building Two	A	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers		
Building Two	B	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	7	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time		
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			41		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main	A	Infants	2	6	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play		
Main	B	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Outside		
Main	C	One Year Olds	1	7	C	9	C	NA	NA	Outside		
Main	D	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside		
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			48		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date:			51		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			89			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0	

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	58	C
Main	Playground B	24	C

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on May 13, 2020. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on June 16, 2020 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.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.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.

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#### 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.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.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.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.

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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.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.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.ga.gov)

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Patricia Smith, Program Official

Date

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Jerica Davis, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 5/14/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 4:00 PM **Departure:** 5:00 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 during the Virtual Visit.

**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**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete during the Administrative Review.

### Facility

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

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center during the Virtual Visit.

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

**Comment**

No hazards were observed accessible to children during the Virtual Visit.

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

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance during the Virtual Visit.

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**Food Service**

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

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Diapering procedures were discussed during the Virtual Visit.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing procedures were discussed during the Virtual Visit.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

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.

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

**Comment**

Due to COVID-19, the center is not currently providing transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Safe sleep and resting requirements were discussed during the Virtual Visit.

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**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 10**

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

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 06/19/2017	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2019	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 08/26/2019	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 02/20/2018	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 08/26/2019	
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 06/19/2017	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 06/23/2017	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 08/26/2019	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 02/18/2020	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7**

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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.

**Comment**

Director provided five files for employees hired since the last visit.

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

**Comment**

Evidence was observed that center staff are certified in First Aid and CPR during the Administrative Review.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training** **Met**

**Correction Deadline: 1/1/2020**

**Corrected on 5/14/2020**

**.33(6) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date during the Administrative Review.**

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**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 Executive Order issued on May 12, 2020.

<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 during the Virtual Visit.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs during the Virtual Visit.