



**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: 3/24/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-48426

Connect Learning Academy

3915 Old Gordon Road Atlanta, GA 30331 Fulton County
(404) 691-3456 toshabaker@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Michelle Smith

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michelle.smith@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

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.
03/24/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/14/2020	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
10/09/2020	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	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	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B - Mid Back	Six Year Olds and Over	1	11	C	22	C	31	C	Outside,Nap
Main	C - Mid Front	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	28	C	Nap
Main	D - 1L		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 96

Total # Children this Date: 23

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 96

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Front	21	C
Main	B - Back	63	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on March 4, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on March 24, 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 2.15.2021.
Required Reporting rule changes discussed.
Nutrition and Supervision rule changes discussed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/24/2021

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.dec.al.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@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).

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

Tosha Baker, Program Official

Date

Michelle Smith, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 3/24/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:00 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 Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

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) **Not Met**

Defer

591-1-1-.25(11)-

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary. Center will be replaced or shampoo the carpet to eliminate the wet carpet and mildew odor in the classroom. In addition, the floors in the classroom near the rear exit door will be repaired or replaced.

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2020

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 one dust pan was accessible in the 1st Right Classroom, and one toilet bowl brush was accessible in the Mid Back bathroom. In addition, there was one vacuum cleaner in the hallway with the cord accessible.

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: 3/24/2021

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Ensure that all bathroom sinks are working properly as required. Center Director stated that the sink just stopped working, and a work order has been submitted.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2021

Defer

591-1-1-.25(3)-

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, and make repairs to the 1 Left bathroom lights. The Center will repair the C-Mid Back Classroom door. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2020

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 sticks and debris caused by continuous rains and changing weather.

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through food storage was observed. Food was observed to be stored on shelving, separately from cleaning products.

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 for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date. Liquid soap and paper towels were observed accessible in the restroom area.

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.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - Update and post Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Correction Deadline: 3/29/2021

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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.

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) **Not Met**

Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(c) requires that each vehicle be equipped with a fire extinguisher maintained in working order and kept inaccessible to children. It was determined on observation that one black van license plate number CMR 7932, was not equipped with an approved fire extinguisher.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each vehicle has a working fire extinguisher and that the fire extinguisher is kept out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2021

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. - Consultant did not observe any transportation documents during the administrative review. The program did not upload the documents as requested.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2021

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

There were no infants present during the visit. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through SIDS and infant sleeping position was discussed.

Defer

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)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 in person or during the next regulatory visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that sheets are marked for individual use or washed daily and that marked sheets are washed at least weekly. The Center will purchase sheets and ensure that they are used each time during sleeping and resting.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2020

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 01/08/2018	Met
Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 02/26/2018	Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 06/05/2019	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 01/03/2019	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 06/21/2019	Met
Staff # 7	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2

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

Comment

Consultant observed seven of seven 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

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of records that one Director did not have valid evidence of completing the 10 clock hours of annual training for 2020 as required. Consultant observed that annual training for 2021 was submitted for review.

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: 12/31/2021

Recited on 3/24/2021

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on review of records that there was no evidence of lead teacher credentials uploaded for review. Consultant did not observe any Professional Development Plan.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2021

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) Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(7) - Consultant discussed with Center Staff to ensure that watchful oversight is provided to all children during all times while present for care. Consultant further discussed the importance of supervision during outdoor play time.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2021