



**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:** 9/14/2020    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 1:30 PM    **Departure:** 4:30 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

Phone: (404) 478-8183  
Fax: (678) 717-5636  
michelle.smith@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
09/14/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/09/2020	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
07/30/2020	Complaint Investigation 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 - 1R	Infants	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B - Mid Back	Six Year Olds and Over	2	12	C	22	C	31	C	Homework
Main	C - Mid Front		0	0	C	20	C	28	C	Not In Use
Main	D - 1L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	8	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 96				
Total # Children this Date: 26			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**

Background checks were reviewed for all center staff. A virtual inspection was conducted on September 14, 2020 with the (Assistant 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.

Post the COVID-19 Stop Sign and continue to adhere to the hand washing and social distancing requests in the child care center. Core rule changes were discussed with the Assistant Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/14/2020

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

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Tosha Baker, Program Official

Date

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Michelle Smith, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 9/14/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:30 PM **Departure:** 4:30 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### 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 at the facility. Per the Director no swimming activities are provided.

### 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**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on Consultants observation during the virtual visit that the 1 Left classroom, had one far left side toilet that was not working properly, and one right side toilet seat was not properly attached to the base, posing potential hazards to children. In addition, Consultant observed that one lamp used for lighting in the Middle Front classroom, did not have a lamp shade to prevent children from touching the light or other potential hazards.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs to the 1 Left toilets, and replace the lamp shade in the Middle Front/Middle Back classroom. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 9/18/2020**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to COVID-19. Consultant discussed with staff to ensure that the playground is monitored for trash and debris. During the virtual walk through the playground area was observed and appeared to be in good repair.

**Health and Hygiene**

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**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 observed and the provider displayed proper knowledge of the rules and regulations.

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**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.

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**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**

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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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-.13 Field Trips(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**Defer**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2.- 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. Per the provider there was no routine transportation provided.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

**Correction Deadline: 2/27/2020**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)3 requires that sheets or similar coverings for cots or mats shall either be marked for individual use or laundered daily. If marked for individual use, they must be laundered weekly or more frequently if needed. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that several students in the A-1R Classroom did not have sheets covering the cots prior to children laying on them.

**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**

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**Records Reviewed: 7****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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

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**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2**

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

Consultant observed seven (7) of seven Center Staff to have valid Satisfactory Comprehensive Criminal Records Check Determination letters on file issued by the Department as required.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Defer****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)**

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

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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**

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

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**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.