



**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:** 6/6/2023    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 12:05 PM    **Departure:** 2:45 PM

**CCLC-47679**

**Authentic Christian Academy**

674 Mount Zion Road, Suite D Jonesboro, GA 30236 Clayton County  
 (678) 789-6016 felenciastarr@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Twantaye Compton

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**Mailing Address**

674 Mount Zion Road, Suite D  
 jonesboro, GA 30236

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
06/06/2023	Monitoring Visit	Support	
01/11/2023	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/12/2022	Licensing Study	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	D- 4yr +	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	12	C	9	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room A (Infants)	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	0	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room B (One's/Two's)		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room C (3 - 5 yrs)	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	8	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			25		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 28			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Only one	9	C

**Comments**

The purpose for today's visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit and follow up on citations from the previous Licensing Study. Technical Assistance was provided in Facility, Children's Records, Health and Hygiene, Sleeping and Resting and Ratio Capacity. All questions were answered and a copy of the report was provided during the exit conference.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/06/2023

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/RuleAndRegulations.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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA [www.decalkoala.com](http://www.decalkoala.com) with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

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 Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

**Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

Felecia Starr, Program Official

Date

Twantaye Compton, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(7)(a) requires a center that operates five hours or more per day to provide at least one and one-half hours of outdoor activity per day, weather permitting, for each child who is not an infant and at least one hour daily for infants. It was determined based on staff interview that outdoor time is not provided daily as required. A center staff confirmed that enrolled children are permitted to sit outside in front of the center where the parking lot is located. The exit doorway of the classroom to the parking lot was observed to be approximately twenty-one (21') feet from the parking lot.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will develop and follow a schedule that provides the required amount of outdoor activity for all children, including infants.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(9) - consultant discussed with the director/owner to refrain from engaging in, or allowing children or other adults to engage in, activities that could be detrimental to a child's health or well-being, such as but not limited to using the front of the center near the parking lot as an area where outside activities are conducted.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.12(3) - Consultant discussed with the director owner to ensure that equipment and furniture be placed so as to permit the children's freedom of movement and to minimize danger of accident and collision. The facility contained over crowding of furniture, equipment and supplies in walkways, corners and other areas throughout the center.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records****Records Reviewed: 1****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-No Record,.08(1)-DOB Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers,.08(2)-Immunization

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that on January 11, 2023, center staff did not maintain a file for a child that was in care.

On June 6, 2023, during a Monitoring visit and follow up, it was determined that the center failed to maintain a file for each child while in care. An infant child observed sleeping in Room A did not have a file that contained all of the required information. Based on an interview, the director owner confirmed that the child was enrolled and began attending the center on June 5, 2023.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

**Correction Deadline: 6/7/2023****Recited on 6/6/2023****Facility****591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.06(6) - Consultant discussed with the director/owner to ensure to equip bathrooms with soap, toilet tissue and single-use towels or cloth towels used only once between launderings. There was a very small amount of liquid soap in each bathroom throughout the center on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023**

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that 35 square feet per child was not maintained in Room D-4yr+ and Room C. Room D-4yr + square feet limits were( 9) nine, twelve (12) children were observed in the room with one center staff on this date. Room C square feet limits were(8) eight, ten (10) children were observed in the room with one center staff.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

**Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023**

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****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 a broom was stored on the bathroom of room D-4 yr+ accessible to children in care. Consultant also observed a plastic grocery bag in the bathroom with non-hazardous items in it behind the door with the broom. Consultant also observed a broom and dustpan in the corner of Room A (infants). All cleaning and hazardous equipment should be stored out of the reach of children.

On June 6, 2023, It was determined based on consultant observation that the following hazards were present: Left center bathroom, cabinet was unlocked and contained hand sanitizer, furniture polish and Lysol cleaning spray

Room D 4yr+ contained a bag of cleaning supplies, dish washing liquid and Dove men's body wash underneath a desk in the back corner of the room

All items were accessible to children and had the warning label "Keep out of Reach of Children"

**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: 6/6/2023****Recited on 6/6/2023****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(17) requires that the Center premises be free of plants and shrubs which are poisonous or hazardous. It was determined based on observation that briar/thorny vines were observed growing on and through the playground fence,

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The harmful item will be removed.

**Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023**

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(19) prohibits the use of unapproved areas for children's activity. It was determined based on an interview during a monitoring visit, that the center uses a small unapproved area near the parking lot to conduct children's outdoor activities.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will discontinue use of this area.

**Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023**

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**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 the following equipment was hazardous and/or lacked a variety for an age appropriate experience:

The climbing slide structure (yellow, green and red)

Slide

red blue and tan bench/table set

red and yellow riding toys

green, orange and yellow slide track

blue and black trampoline

tan and blue wagon

**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: 6/16/2023****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 the following hazards were present on the playground:

excessive piles of leaves, sticks and pine cones

standing water in equipment

evidence of mildew, dirt and debris on equipment.

Thorn vines growing on and through the fence

**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: 6/9/2023**

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.07(5) - Consultant discussed with the director/owner and center staff to ensure to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items.

**Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023**

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

591-1-1-.10(7) - Consultant discussed with the director owner to ensure to provide liquid soap, individually dispensed single-use hand towels, single-use wash cloths, and covered storage container for soiled items

**Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023**

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(7) - Discussed to ensure that children and staff wash hand upon arrival and throughout the day. The lack of liquid soap in restrooms were discussed with center staff on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Sleeping/Naps are not required for this program. School age children attend only for after school hours.

**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.

**Comment**

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)2 - Consultant discussed with center staff to ensure that cots and mats are used by the same child daily and marked for individual use.

**Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on consultant observation that a toddler in Room A was observed to be asleep with a toy in the crib while the child slept.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

**Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023**

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Staffing and Supervision****591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that on January 11, 2023 at 1:00 p.m., there were two infants and five one-year-old children in Room A (infants) and there was one staff member present.

On June 6, 2023, it was determined, based on a review of records and observation there were three (3), two-year-olds mixed and being supervised with three, four and five year-old children in room C (3-5 yrs)

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

**Correction Deadline: 6/7/2023**

**Recited on 6/6/2023**

**Correction Deadline: 1/11/2023**

**Corrected on 6/6/2023**

**.32(5) - Based on observation there was sufficient staff during nap time in Room C.**

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

**Correction Deadline: 1/11/2023**

**Corrected on 6/6/2023**

**.32(7) - Proper supervision was observed throughout the center on this date.**