



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: 10/25/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 8:40 AM

Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-498

Little Tots Academy, Inc.

2650 McAfee Rd. Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
(404) 534-9969 littletotsac@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

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Mailing Address

2650 McAfee Road
Decatur, GA 30032

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

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.
10/25/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/16/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/26/2022	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-1 st Right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	18	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding
Main	B -2nd Right	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	19	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Transitioning
Main	C-1-1 st left		0	0	C	18	C	25	C	Not In Use
Main	C2- 2nd left		0	0	C	26	C	36	C	
Main	D- Back leftLeft	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	6	C	19	C	27	C	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 100			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 125				
Total # Children this Date: 20			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 100			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 125				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	61	C

Comments

An on-site inspection was conducted on October 25, 2023 with the Director JerDonna Sawyer. Background checks were all reviewed on October 25, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/25/2023

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/Regulations.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 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 for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Lucy Andrews, Program Official

Date

Jessica Johnson, 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

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Technical Assistance

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Correction Deadline: 6/30/2023

Corrected on 10/25/2023

.12(2) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed the green table removed from the classroom.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.12(2) - The Consultant discussed with the Director removing the broken foot stool from the restroom in classroom B-2nd Right.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2023

Corrected on 10/25/2023

.06(4) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed ventilation in the restroom between classroom C2-2nd left and D-Back left Left.

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)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(13) - The Consultant discussed with the Director adding a lock on the tan cabinet on the left side of the classroom. The Consultant discussed with the Director storing hazardous items such as plastic grocery bags and diaper wipes to be inaccessible to child in care.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

Correction Deadline: 6/30/2023

Corrected on 10/25/2023

.25(3) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed the toilet seat repaired.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director spraying for insects in the restroom between classroom C2-2nd left and D-Back left Left.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

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 follow hazards were observed:

- Rust on the two infant bucket seat swing chains.
- Chipping paint on the yellow ladder and green handle bars on the tall slide.
- Raveling tape on the inside of the toddler play structure.

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: 11/8/2023

Recited on 10/25/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Director storing the plastic covered new equipment to be inaccessible to children in care. The Consultant discussed hammering down the bolts in the black barriers as they lift.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.07(5) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that Center Staff may not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director covering the small tear on the left side of the changing pad.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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 observation that a child did not wash their hands after they were observed exiting the restroom.

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: 10/25/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.17(8) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that staff must 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.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.05(2) - The Consultant discussed with the Director keeping fish tank areas clean.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director. The Consultant discussed with the Director adding the dates to the bottom portion of the School Transportation form.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) - The Consultant discussed with the Director monitoring the cracked right side view mirror.

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on observation that the driver side front and rear tires were balding and had a low thread depth.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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

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**

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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

