



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: 8/1/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:30 AM **Departure:** 3:35 PM

CCLC-54763

Scholars Tech, LLC

1535 Columbia Drive Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
(404) 549-9058 glenda@scholarstech.org

CCS Coordinator

Kaycee Purvis

Phone: (770) 357-4915

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kaycee.purvis@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Maryn Accord

Mailing Address

Same

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.
08/01/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/29/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/02/2023	Complaint Closure	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 Building	Front	One Year Olds	3	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning, Lunch
Main Building	Back Left	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	17	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Nap, Transitioning
Main Building	Back Right	Three Year Olds	1	13	C	17	C	NA	NA	Music, Transitioning, Nap, Lunch
Main Building	Lower Level Left		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	Lower Level-Right		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	Middle	Infants	1	1	C	7	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Nap
Main Building	Middle Cafe-C		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 105			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 37			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 105			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main Building	Infant/Toddler	76	C
Main Building	Large Playground	63	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/01/2024

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), 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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.03(2) - The Consultants observed current lesson plans on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(1) - The Consultants and Director discussed ensuring that batteries are replaced in toys as needed.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

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: 4

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(1)(a)-Special Care Procedures

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(1) - The Consultants and Director discussed ensuring that all sections of children's enrollment files are completed.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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(11) - The Consultants and Director discussed ensuring that all rugs are secured so that they do not pose as a tripping hazard.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that there were twelve bolts longer than two threads on the Infant/Toddler playground at the entrance gate.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2024**Recited on 8/1/2024**

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 upon observation that the following equipment hazards were observed accessible to children on this date:

Infant/Toddler Playground:

- The blue and white climbing structure was missing a screw causing the side to disconnect from the structure.

Large Playground:

- The red wooden barrier around the concrete tricycle area was leaning backwards at the front left corner.
- One out of nine tricycles was missing a pedal.
- The second and third step leading into the single slide play structure was splintered towards the back of the steps.

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: 8/31/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultants and Director discussed removing playground hazards prior to children going outside.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

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

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Corrected on 8/1/2024

.15(3) - Correction of the previous citation in that the Consultants observed appropriate temperatures in refrigerators on this date.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Corrected on 8/1/2024

.17(7) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants observed appropriate hand washing throughout.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

Correction Deadline: 3/1/2024

Corrected on 8/1/2024

.21(1)(q) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants observed documentation of safe sleep practices on this date.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Corrected on 8/1/2024

.05(2) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants did not observe animals on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2024

Corrected on 8/1/2024

.36(4)(a) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants observed that all tires were in good repair.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Corrected on 8/1/2024

.30(2) - Correction of previous citation in that staff stated infants are laid to sleep on their backs.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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. The Consultants and Director discussed adequate supervision during bathroom times for older children.