



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 10/29/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 9:30 AM

**Departure:** 10:20 AM

**CCLC-39223**

**Hoke / McNeal Academy of Higher Learning**

3055 River Oak Mews Decatur, GA 30034 DeKalb County  
 (404) 244-0878 joyscrutchings@hokemcnealacademy.com

**Regional Consultant**

Verlyn Gant

Phone: (404) 591-6059

Fax: (404) 591-6060

verlyn.gant@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10/29/2021                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02/23/2021                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 09/20/2019                         | 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                           | A-3-5 Years | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2                             | 9        | C    | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 16 |             |                                                      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |             |
| Total # Children this Date: 9  |             |                                                      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |             |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Outside    | 35                   | C                     |

**Comments**

Background checks were all reviewed on October 29, 2021. A virtual inspection was conducted on October 29, 2021 with the Director.

An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On this date the consultant discussed rule changes effective October 01, 2020.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/29/2021

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.decal.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



### Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.decal.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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.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://decal.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)

Cynthia Mcneal, Program Official

Date

Verlyn Gant, 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)**

Met

**Comment**

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

**591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**

N/A

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

**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

**Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

**Comment**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., plunger) out of reach of children.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - Please ensure that the center maintains safety by making sure that the smoke detector is in working order.

**Correction Deadline: 10/29/2021**

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

Not Evaluated

**Comment**

Playground not observed on this date due to inclement weather.

### Health and Hygiene

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|                                                        |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

There were no children enrolled in the program on this date who were in diapers.

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|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
|  | <b>Safety</b> |
|--|---------------|

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not provide transportation.

|  |                                         |
|--|-----------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|--|-----------------------------------------|

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|                                                               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**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.

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
|  | <b>Staff Records</b> |
|--|----------------------|

**Records Reviewed: 3**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Staff # 1 | Met |
|-----------|-----|

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Staff # 2 | Met |
|-----------|-----|

Date of Hire: 08/08/2015

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Staff # 3 | Met |
|-----------|-----|

Date of Hire: 08/01/2018

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 0**

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|                                                                             |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
|  | <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|--|---------------------------------|

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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

**Comment**

591-1-1-.32(7) - Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

**Correction Deadline: 10/29/2021**