



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: 12/18/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 12:20 PM **Departure:** 5:00 PM

CCLC-50243

International Preparatory Academy III

2541 Glenvalley Drive Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
(404) 289-8666 intlprepacademy@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

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Fax:

jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

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.
12/18/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/22/2023	TA Follow Up	Good Standing	
09/15/2023	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	A-1st right side		0	0	C	46	C	NA	NA	
Main	B- 2nd left Preschool	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	17	NC	56	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C-Left side infants	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	9	NC	41	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks				
Total # Children this Date: 26			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A-Preschool and School-age	31	C
Main	B-Infant and Toddler	17	C

Comments

An on-site inspection was conducted on December 18, 2023 with the Assistant Director Crystal Wood. Background checks were all reviewed on December 18, 2023. Investigative findings were not concluded on December 18, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/18/2023

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.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!

Michelle Wells, 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-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(6) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that Center Staff must ensure children less than three years of age do not spend more than one-half hour of time consecutively in confining equipment, such as swings, highchairs, jump seats, carriers or walkers. Children shall use such equipment only when they are awake. Such children shall be allowed time to play on the floor daily. Infants shall have supervised tummy time on the floor daily when they are awake.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023

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)

Met

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.

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 the following hazards were observed:

Classroom A

- Chair stacked in the back of the classroom.

Classroom B

- A plastic bag in the cubbies.
- Microban on top of the puzzle case.

Classroom C

- A plastic bag in the cubbies.
- Wet ones in the cubby.
- Diaper wipes in the cubby.

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: 12/18/2023

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 observation that the following hazards were observed:

Classroom B

- Damaged ceiling tiles throughout.
- Missing wooden piece on the first restroom door.
- Damaged ceiling tile in the first restroom.
- Plastic fencing disconnected from the stair railing.

Classroom C

- Disconnected ceiling tiles throughout.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 1/2/2024

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023

Corrected on 12/18/2023

.25(4) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed the temperature at 74 degrees in classroom A and 70 degrees in classroom B.

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - The Consultant discussed with the Director covering the chipped paint on the green merry-go-round and the green climbing dome.

Correction Deadline: 12/28/2023

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 observed:

Playground A-Preschool and School-age

- Discarded pipe near the silver climbing structure.
- A hole near the back right side of the fence.
- Exposed tarp through.

Playground B- Infant and Toddler

- Exposed concert on the fence.
- Weeds throughout.
- Torn green tarp.
- Exposed concrete under the blue airplane.
- Discarded bricks throughout.

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: 1/2/2024

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(6)(a) requires the Center to serve all scheduled meals and snacks to children when they are present. In those Centers where the Parent(s) of children enrolled provide the meals and snacks, the Center shall ensure that no child remains at the Center without receiving the scheduled nutritious meals and snacks. There shall be a period of at least two (2) hours between each required meal or snack. The following meals and snacks shall be scheduled and served by the Center when appropriate: breakfast or morning snack, lunch, an afternoon snack, supper during evening care, and evening snack prior to bedtime, if the Center provides night-time care. It was determined based on observation that the children were not served lunch within the two-hour interval after breakfast.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule all required nutritious meals and snacks at least two hours apart and will serve them to each child who is present. Staff will be trained to determine if meals provided by parents meet nutritional guidelines and to provide any missing items.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

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

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

Finding

591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or unsupervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat. It was determined based on observation that a staff member was overheard telling a child to close their mouth because they were getting on their nerves.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take immediate action to ensure the action/conduct has ceased; train/review appropriate child guidance techniques with center staff; and have a system in place to monitor and identify inappropriate actions.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023

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

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) - The Consultant discussed with the Director covering the missing panel on the side of the first row seat in vehicle # SBH3718.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2023**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(4)(c) requires that each vehicle be equipped with a fire extinguisher maintained in working order and kept inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the fire extinguishers were missing on vehicle # SBH3718 and vehicle # CMK8936 on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each vehicle has a working fire extinguisher and that the fire extinguisher is kept out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that the following was missing from the transportation log:

- Missing four out of four check marks to account for children loading or unloading the vehicle on November 17, 2023 from McNair Discovery to International Preparatory Academy.
- Missing four out of four check marks to account for children loading or unloading the vehicle on December 13, 2023 from Toney Elementary to International Preparatory Academy.
- Missing four out of four check marks to account for children loading or unloading the vehicle on December 13, 2023 from McNair Discovery to International Preparatory Academy.
- Missing four out of four check marks to account for children loading or unloading the vehicle on December 13, 2023 from Obama Elementary to International Preparatory Academy.
- Missing four out of four check marks to account for children loading or unloading the vehicle on December 15, 2023 from Obama Elementary to International Preparatory Academy.
- Missing four out of four check marks to account for children loading or unloading the vehicle on December 15, 2023 from Toney Elementary to International Preparatory Academy.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1. requires that the first check be conducted immediately upon unloading the last child at any location including, but not limited to, a field trip destination, arrival at the Center, and the last stop during transportation to home or school. The responsible person on the vehicle shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; sign the passenger transportation checklist (s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle; and give the passenger transportation checklist(s) to the second designated Staff person. It was determined based on a review of records that the following was not documented on the transportation log:

- The first check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on December 13, 2023, from McNair Discovery to International Preparatory Academy.
- The first check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on December 13, 2023, from Obama Elementary to International Preparatory Academy.
- The first check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on December 13, 2023, from Toney Elementary to International Preparatory Academy.

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: 12/19/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1. requires that the first check be conducted immediately upon unloading the last child at any location including, but not limited to, a field trip destination, arrival at the Center, and the last stop during transportation to home or school. The responsible person on the vehicle shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; sign the passenger transportation checklist (s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle; and give the passenger transportation checklist(s) to the second designated Staff person. It was determined based on a review of records that the first check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on December 11, 2023, from McNair Discovery to International Preparatory Academy. It was further determined based on a review of records that the first check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on December 13, 2023, from Obama Elementary to International Preparatory Academy. It was also determined based on a review of records that the first check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on December 13, 2023, from Toney Elementary to International Preparatory Academy.

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: 12/19/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on a review of records that the following was not documented on the transportation log:

- The second check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on from the week of November 13, 2023, through November 17, 2023, from Flat Shoals to International Preparatory Academy.
- The second check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on December 13, 2023, from McNair Discovery to International Preparatory Academy.
- The second check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on December 13, 2023, from Obama Elementary to International Preparatory Academy.
- The second check of the vehicle was not documented for the P.M. transportation on December 13, 2023, from Toney Elementary to International Preparatory Academy.

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: 12/18/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not 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.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023

Corrected on 12/18/2023

.30(1)(b)3 - Citation corrected. All children were observed sleeping with sheets on their cots.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation that two one-year-old children were observed sleeping in the high chairs.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will only place infants in safe cribs to sleep and will transfer them to a safe crib when the infants are asleep in other equipment.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023

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

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that the Center must ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #2 and staff #14 did not complete the CPR and first aid certification within the first 90 days of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 1/17/2024

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that staff # 2 and staff # 14 did not complete the health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/17/2024

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)

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 a ratio of 1:17 was observed on playground A Preschool and School-age. It was further determined that a ratio of 1:9 was observed in classroom C-Left side infants.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4)(a) requires that during the early morning times of arrival and late afternoon times of departure, infants and children younger than three (3) years may be grouped with older children so long as Staff: child ratios and group size are met based on the age of the youngest child in the group. It was determined based on observation that children younger than three-years-old were grouped with older children at a time other than the first and last hour of operation while on playground A Preschool and School-age.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain Staff:child ratios based on the youngest child in the group during early morning and late afternoon times when children younger than three years of age may be grouped with older children.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. 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. It was determined based on observation that a two-year-old student was observed in classroom B without adult supervision. It was further determined based on observation that four children were observed in classroom B washing their hands while the staff member was observed standing between the door way supervising both classroom A and classroom B.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2023

Corrected on 12/18/2023

.07(2) - Citation corrected. No hazards observed on this day.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2023

Corrected on 12/18/2023

.17(2) - Citation corrected. No hazards observed on this day.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2023

Corrected on 12/18/2023

.29(3) - Citation corrected. The Consultant discussed with the Director that the designated person-in-charge must report or cause to be reported to the Department within twenty-four (24) hours or the next work day: any death of a child while in the care of the Center; any serious illness or injury requiring hospitalization or professional medical attention other than first aid of a child while in the care of the Center; any situation when a child in care becomes missing, such as, but not limited to, a child who is left on a vehicle, a child who leaves the building, playground, or property, or a child who is left behind on any trip; any fire; any structural disaster; any emergency situation that requires temporarily relocating children; and any time the program's operating status changes (i.e., open to closed or temporarily closed and temporarily closed to open)