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: 10/24/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 7:50 AM **Departure:** 2:25 PM

CCLC-894
La Petite Academy - Lee
1806 Lee Rd. Lithia Springs, GA 30122 Douglas County
(770) 732-8827 7415@lapetite.com

Regional Consultant
Laura Swann
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Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
10/24/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
08/23/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/28/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

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.

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	Room A - 1L	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	15	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	Room B - 2nd Left	GA PreK	1	16	C	33	C	33	C	Circle Time
Main	Room C - 3rd Left	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	Room D - 3rd Right	GA PreK	2	12	C	31	C	31	C	Circle Time
Main	Room E - 2nd Right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding,Floor Play
Main	Room F - 1st Right	One Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	Room G - Front Center	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	21	C	21	C	Breakfast
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 146			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 146					
Total # Children this Date: 75		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 146			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 146					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Area A - Infant	3	C
Main	Area B - Toddler Yard	17	C
Main	Area C - Lower Yard	56	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	**1 years**	**2 years**	**3 years**	**4 years**	**5 years (Prekony)**	**5 years and older**
8	15	19	23	34	9	37

Comments
Licensing study completed on October 24, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/24/2024

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.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

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.

<u>Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients.</u> 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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free techincal 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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the following items needed attention:
C- The cubbies and walls were dirty and needed cleaning.
D- The tan child size sofa and chair were worn with exposed foam. The cubbies were dirty and needed cleaning.
E- The cabinets under the handwashing sink and the child mirror were dirty and needed cleaning.
F- The foam play mats were worn with exposed foam.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2024

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

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Met**

Comment
Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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) **Not Met**

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

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 accessible to children in care:
A- In two drawers with broken child locks under the changing table were adult scissors, batteries, diaper cream, shave cream, "Alka Seltzer" tablets, sunscreen and "Fluocinolone Acetonide oil".
B- In an unlocked storage cabinet were "Clorox" wipes, staplers, "Lysol"spray, "Off" bug spray and a teacher's purse.
C- The first aid bag was on a low shelf.
D- First aid box and bag were on the floor near cubbies. "Off" was in a child's basket. In an unlocked cabinet were Sanitizing Bleach, paint scraper, hammer, "Fabulosa", adult scissors and a teacher's purse. Mrs. Meyers cleaner was on top of the paper towel holder beside the handwashing sinks.
F- In two drawers with broken child locks were batteries, push pins, scissors, diaper cream and sunscreen.
G- A teacher's purse was on a low shelf.

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: 10/24/2024

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 items needed attention:
All windows and window seals were dusty and dirty and needed to be cleaned.
All vents were dusty and dirty and needed to be cleaned.
All baseboards were dusty and dirty and needed to be cleaned.
One piece of siding had a hole measuring 14 inches by three inches and needed replacing and paint was peeling off on left side of the building.
Classroom E- One cabinet door below the refrigerator was missing the door.

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: 10/24/2024

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(8) - Consultant reviewed with the director that protective caps were required on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2024

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

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2023

Corrected on 10/24/2024
.26(4) - Correction observed on the date. Fencing measured a minimum of four feet.

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 the front wooden fence on playground A had four exposed screws. The wooden fencing around the air conditioning units had seven exposed nails and the paint was peeling.

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: 10/31/2024

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 on observation that the following equipment needed to be repaired:
Playground A- The red, blue and yellow climber needed cleaning and had peeling paint.
Playground C- The red, blue and yellow climbing structure had two red plastic walls that were missing one bolt on each, the left side yellow handrail going up the steps was loose and one red tricycle had a broken seat.

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: 11/3/2024

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2023

Corrected on 10/24/2024
.26(8) - Correction observed on this date. Resilient surfacing was adequate.

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:
A- Upper playground- Pinecones.
C- Lower playground- exposed tree roots, and exposed cement measuring three inches.

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: 10/28/2024

Recited on 10/24/2024

Food Service

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

Finding
591-1-1-.15(2) requires that a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age shall be obtained from Parent(s) and that instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the child's assigned room and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on observation there were no feeding plans for four infants. Consultant emailed the director a copy of the infant feeding plan document.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center Director will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis that will include center staff involved with enrollment and those working in the infant classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2024

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.18(7) requires each Center to have a designated space for storage of food and kitchen items and that the area be kept clean and free of accumulation of dust, dirt, food particles and grease deposits. It was determined based on observation that the doors and cabinets had dirt and food particle present and needed cleaning.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will designate an area for the storage of these items, will thoroughly clean the space, if needed, develop and implement a plan to train Staff, as needed, and inspect the storage area daily.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2024

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health — **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.07(5) - Consultant reviewed with the director as follows: requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2024

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

Comment
Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) — **Met**

Comment
Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment
Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) — **Met**

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures — **Met**

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2023

Corrected on 10/24/2024
.21(3) - Correction observed on this date. Fire drills were completed monthly as required.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals — **Met**

Comment
Center does not keep animals on premises.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR) — **Met**

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) — **Met**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.36(7)(b) - Consultant review with the director the requirements for transportation documents as follows: an emergency medical information record be maintained in the vehicle for each child being transported. The emergency medical information record for each child shall include a listing of the child's full name, date of birth, allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and telephone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility that the Center uses in the area where the Center is located and the telephone numbers where the Parents can be reached.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

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
Director provided 9 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR **Met**

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2023

Corrected on 10/24/2024
.14(2) - Correction observed on this date. Current staff had obtained CPR and first aid training as required.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Met**

Comment
Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2023

Corrected on 10/24/2024
.33(4) - Correction observed on this date. The director and cook completed four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

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.