



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: 8/31/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:05 AM **Departure:** 12:10 PM

CCLC-898

La Petite Academy - Panola

3079 Panola Rd. Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County
 (770) 987-4582 7429@lapetite.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Lisa Pitts

Phone: (678) 747-6859

Fax: (706) 314-7903

lisa.prather@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Stacy Whitten

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.
08/31/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/10/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/01/2022	Incident Investigation 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- 2 y/o	Infants	2	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B-2nd -Right-1-2 y/o	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C- 3rd Right-Infant	One Year Olds	2	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	D-Bck-Rt- 4 y/o	GA PreK	2	19	C	22	C	30	C	Centers
Main	E- Back Lft- 4 y/o	GA PreK	2	20	C	20	C	28	C	Centers
Main	F-Center- 3 y/o	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	22	C	30	C	Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 127					
Total # Children this Date: 69					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 127					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back Playground	101	C
Main	Right Playground	18	C

Comments

4-17-2023-Spelling corrections only. C. Covey

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/31/2022

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/RuleAndRegulations.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!

Tanya Beasley, Program Official

Date

Stacy Whitten, Consultant

Date

Lisa Pitts, Consultant

Date



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 8/31/2022 VisitType: Monitoring Visit Arrival: 10:05 AM Departure: 12:10 PM

CCLC-898

La Petite Academy - Panola

3079 Panola Rd. Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County
(770) 987-4582 7429@lapetite.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Lisa Pitts

Phone: (678) 747-6859

Fax: (706) 314-7903

lisa.prather@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Stacy Whitten

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.12(2) - The Consultant and Director discussed that the department 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 on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2022

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

Met

Comment

Per the Director, the center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.08(1) - Previous citations corrected. All children files had been updated with all required information on this date.

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.06(5) - Previous citations corrected. Dividers had been placed in the restrooms shared by the pre-k classrooms to provide privacy on this date.

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

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 consultants observation that the following hazards were accessible to children:

- Bleach and purell hand sanitizer in an unlocked closet.
- Plunger, cleaning spray, lysol spray in middle bathroom.
- Diaper rash cream in the one-year-old bathroom.
- Broom, dust pan, and mop in an unlocked closet.
- First aid kit accessible in the pre-k classroom.

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: 8/31/2022

Recited on 8/31/2022

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 the following fencing/barrier hazards were observed:

- Two pole caps and rust at the top of the chain fence on the toddler play area.
- Playground equipment was fixed with a temporary fencing that was hazardous, in that the wooden pole was detaching.
- Wood fencing, on the back left playground, was detaching creating a gap that measured over four inches wide and had rusted nails exposed.

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: 8/31/2022

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 large wooden sand table was cracked and splintering in multiple areas. It was further determined that the swing chains on the toddler play area were cracked.

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: 9/10/2022

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 the consultants observation that the following hazards were observed:

- Large black sand bags outside of the middle class door, leading to the play area causing a possible tripping hazard.
- White metal pieces with sharp edges on the wall outside of the middle classroom door leading the play area.

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: 8/31/2022

Recited on 8/31/2022

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(9) requires Center Staff to not use the area used for diapering for food preparation and to keep the diapering area clear of formulas, food, food utensils and food preparation items. It was determined based on observation that in the one-year-old classroom the staff had lunch stored on the changing table.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will be trained, specified areas will be available for food preparation and placement of food-related items, and the director will monitor.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2022

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

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.17(7) - Previous citations corrected. Proper handwashing was observed on this date.

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

Per the Provider, the center currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.21(3) - Previous citations corrected. All drill were up to date.

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access**Met**

Correction Deadline: 2/21/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.22 - Previous citations corrected. Parents are allowed access as required by the department.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022****Corrected on 8/31/2022****.29(2) - Previous citations corrected.****Safety**

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

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

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022**Corrected on 8/31/2022****.11(1) - Previous citations corrected. Pleasant interactions were observed on this date.****Correction Deadline: 3/1/2022****Corrected on 8/31/2022****.11(2) - Previous citations corrected. Pleasant interactions were observed on this date.**

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****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 transportation records that center staff did not document five children unloading the van, after school, on August 12, 2022.

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: 9/1/2022**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2022**Corrected on 8/31/2022****.30(1)(a)2 - Previous citations corrected. All sheets were observed to be tight-fitting as required by the department.****Staff Records**

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

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.09(1)(a) - Previous citations corrected. All staff on the premises during the visit had a satisfactory criminal background checks on file for the consultant to review.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.09(1)(c) - Previous citations corrected. All staff on the premises during the visit had a satisfactory criminal background checks on file for the consultant to review.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.09(1)(j) - Previous citations corrected. All staff on the premises during the visit had a satisfactory criminal background checks on file for the consultant to review.

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

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.14(1) - Previous citations corrected. Center staff provided First Aid and CPR as required by the department.

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

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2022

Corrected on 8/31/2022

.33(4) - Previous citations corrected. Center staff have obtained food preparation as required by the department.

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)- Center was cited for training during last regulatory visit on March 10, 2022.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2022

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.