



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: 11/16/2023 VisitType: Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit Arrival: 2:15 PM Departure: 6:20 PM

CCLC-57835

Decatur Scholars Academy

5271 Snapfinger Woods Drive Decatur, GA 30035 DeKalb County
(770) 284-8081 decaturscholarsacademy@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

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Mailing Address

5271 Snapfinger Woods Drive
Stonecrest, GA 30035

Quality Rated: No

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.
11/16/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/15/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
10/19/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Deficient	

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	Infants	2	3	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room B		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room C	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room D		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room E	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	24	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room F		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room G		0	0	C	53	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room H		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room I	Six Year Olds and Over	1	12	C	44	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room J	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	17	C	50	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room K	Six Year Olds and Over	2	24	C	20	NC	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room L		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 71			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	36	C

Comments

A Monitoring Visit was conducted on September 20, 2023. Background checks were reviewed. The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the Monitoring Visit report was given to the Director.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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!

Lisa Woodard, Program Official

Date

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley, 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

591-1-1.12 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.

591-1-1.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

591-1-1.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/29/2023

Corrected on 11/16/2023

.26(6) - Previous citation observed corrected in that the helicopter had been painted on the inside and outside.

Correction Deadline: 10/29/2023

Corrected on 11/16/2023

.26(7) - Previous citation observed corrected in that the red helicopter was removed.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

Corrected on 11/16/2023

.10(4) - Previous citation corrected in the guard rail was replaced.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.22 requires the Center to permit the custodial Parent(s) of the child access to all child care areas of the Center at any time the child is in attendance. The custodial Parent(s) shall make his or her presence known to Center Staff prior to removing the child from the Center. Please note that parents are permitted access to all of the child care areas.

Correction Deadline: 11/16/2023

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/23/2023

Corrected on 11/16/2023

.30(1)(a)3 - Previous citation corrected in that tight fitting sheets were observed on three of three infant sheets.

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

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

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2023

Corrected on 11/16/2023

.09(1)(a) - Previous citation observed in that Criminal Records Checks were on file for all new staff.

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2023

Corrected on 11/16/2023

.09(1)(c) - Previous citation observed corrected in that Criminal Records Checks were on file for all new staff.

Correction Deadline: 10/19/2023

Corrected on 11/16/2023

.09(1)(j) - Previous citation observed corrected in that Criminal Records Checks were on file for all new staff.

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)

Technical Assistance

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Technical Assistance

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.

Correction Deadline: 11/16/2023

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.