



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: 6/6/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:30 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-29919

Ascension Learning Academy

6265 Maddox Road Morrow, GA 30260 Clayton County
(404) 608-1784 dshaunesmith@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Nadia Bernard

Phone: (404) 670-9398

Fax: (706) 434-7710

nadia.bernard@dec.al.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.
06/06/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/12/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/16/2023	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		0	0	C	16	C	23	C	Not In Use
Main	B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	C	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning, Free Play
Main	D Afterschool		0	0	C	8	C	11	C	Not In Use

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 52

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 62

Total # Children this Date: 9

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 52

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 62

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Plgd-A	13	C
Main	Plgd-B	10	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
1	2	5	6	4	0	0

Comments

The report was reviewed and emailed to the administrative staff present at the center.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.decgal.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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decgal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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: 6/6/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:30 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-29919

Ascension Learning Academy

6265 Maddox Road Morrow, GA 30260 Clayton County
(404) 608-1784 dshaunesmith@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Nadia Bernard

Phone: (404) 670-9398

Fax: (706) 434-7710

nadia.bernard@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/21/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/20/2010

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Comment

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

Finding

591-1-1.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that in Room B there was a white desk area near the entrance door that was not fully attached to the wall.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 6/9/2025

Recited on 6/6/2025

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/21/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/20/2010

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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)

Not Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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 fence separating Playground A and B had an five inch gap on the left near the exterior wooden fence.

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: 6/22/2025

Recited on 6/6/2025

Health and Hygiene

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/21/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/20/2010

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/12/2024

Corrected on 6/6/2025

.07(5) - The consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The consultant did not observe any pacifier attachments on this date.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that Room C had a loose fitted porous changing pad surface.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2025

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.

Safety

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/21/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/20/2010

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/21/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/20/2010

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Comment

Please ensure that cribs/cots are labeled for individual use.

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

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/21/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/20/2010

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Staff provided three files for employees hired since last visit.

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

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that staff # 1 and #5 did not have evidence of completing the ten annual hours of required training for the year 2024.

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: 12/31/2025

Recited on 6/6/2025

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.

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/21/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/20/2010

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/12/2024

Corrected on 6/6/2025

.32(5) - The consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The consultant observed compliant staff to child ratios during rest time.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.