



**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:** 11/28/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 12:30 PM

**Departure:** 2:30 PM

**CCLC-36031**

**Pre-School Academy Learning Center**

1304 Whispering Pines Road Albany, GA 31707 Dougherty County  
(229) 439-1990 tootiefruit73@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Debrik Perry

Phone: (478) 599-9821

Fax: (478) 314-5864

debrik.perry@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

1304 WHISPERING PINES ROAD  
Albany, GA 31707

**Quality Rated:** ★

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11/28/2023                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 03/22/2023                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 10/31/2022                         | Monitoring Visit | 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-Front      | Three Year Olds                 | 2                              | 15       | C                               | 36                              | C            | 50         | C                                                       | Nap   |
| Main                           | B-2nd Left   | Two Year Olds                   | 2                              | 9        | C                               | 18                              | C            | 26         | C                                                       | Nap   |
| Main                           | C- Back Left | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds | 1                              | 5        | C                               | 22                              | C            | NA         | NA                                                      | Nap   |
| Main                           | D            |                                 | 0                              | 0        | C                               | 23                              | C            | NA         | NA                                                      |       |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 99 |              |                                 |                                |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 114 |                                 |              |            |                                                         |       |
| Total # Children this Date: 29 |              |                                 | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 99 |          |                                 | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 114 |              |            | Building @25 capacity limited by Playground Limitations |       |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | A          | 15                   | C                     |
| Main     | B          | 23                   | C                     |

**Comments**

An in person inspection was conducted on November 28, 2023 with the director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/28/2023

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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](http://www.decalkoala.com) with the user id 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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

Robin Whitfield- Thomas, Program Official

Date

Debrik Perry, Regional Consultant

Date



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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)

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

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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: 3/22/2023

Corrected on 11/28/2023

Previous citation corrected. The playground was free of debris on this date.

Food Service

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|                                                 |            |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.15 Food Service &amp; Nutrition</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

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|                                                        |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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|--------------------------------|
| <b>Policies and Procedures</b> |
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|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies &amp; Procedures</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

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|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices</b> | <b>Met</b> |
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**Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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| <b>Safety</b> |
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|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.05 Animals</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

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

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

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|                                                               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**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.

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|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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|                                                                             |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Director provided files for one employee hired since last visit on March 22, 2023.

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|                                               |            |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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|----------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.14 First Aid &amp; CPR</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.33 Staff Training</b> | <b>Not Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|

**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 observation that the following staff did not complete the 10 clock hours of training for 2023:

- 1) staff #3
- 2) staff #7

**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: 11/28/2023**

**Recited on 11/28/2023**

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|------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
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**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
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|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.