



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: 9/9/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:05 AM **Departure:** 1:15 PM

CCLC-49742

Simply The Best Academy

3800 Big Miller Grove Way Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County
(678) 404-8821 simplythebestacademy@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Maryn Accord

Phone: ()

Fax:

maryn.accord@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Rebekah Mullinax

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.
09/09/2024	Monitoring Visit	Support	
06/05/2024	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
03/14/2024	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/1L- 5-7 years	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	B/L Middle- 3 years		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	C/R Middle- 2 year olds	Infants	1	3	C	9	C	NA	NA	Diapering
Main	D/2R- 4 and up		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	
Main	E/1R- 3 years	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	F- Front middle - 6weeks- 23 months	One Year Olds	1	4	C	15	C	NA	NA	Outside

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 82

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 21

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 82

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG	37	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	8	9	8	8	0	42

Comments

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 09/23/2024

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.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!



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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.

Children's Records

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/15/2024

Corrected on 9/9/2024

.08(2) - Previous citation was corrected in that director said they are 100 percent compliant with the Georgia Department of Public Health's school required immunization law.

Facility

591-1-1.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2024

Corrected on 9/9/2024

.19(1) - Previous citation corrected in that there were eight children present in classroom E.

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

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

591-1-1.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2024

Corrected on 9/9/2024

.26(4) - Previous citation was corrected in that the fence appeared to be maintained and in good repair as required.

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 top of the yellow slide was missing nine bolts that secured the slide to the top of the play structure causing a potential pinching hazard.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2024

Recited on 9/9/2024

Technical Assistance

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. On this date, the consultant observed one active ant bed located on the far left side near the gate of the playground. Please ensure that the kept free from hazards as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based upon observation that two out of seven vents were missing vent covers on the roof of vehicle with Tag# CLV4206.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2024

Recited on 9/9/2024

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2024

Corrected on 9/9/2024

.36(4)(c) - Previous citation corrected.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

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

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit.

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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.