



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: 7/9/2025

VisitType: Complaint Investigation &
Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:20 AM

Departure: 3:30 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: (404) 591-6031

Fax:

maryn.accord@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.
07/09/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/16/2025	LS POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/13/2024	POI Follow Up	Support	

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	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	B/L Middle- 3 years		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C/R Middle- 2 year olds	Infants	1	2	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	D/2R- 4 and up	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	7	C	25	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	E/1R- 3 years		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F- Front middle - 6weeks- 23 months	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	4	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
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
1	3	4	3	6	0	17

Comments

Staff records were reviewed and core rules were evaluated on this visit. Staff training and playground resources were discussed to ensure continued compliance. Updates made to the CCLC Rules and Regulations were reviewed.

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:

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@decgal.ga.gov 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 CI/MV:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/16/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/16/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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 areas of the fencing material measured 3 feet, 10 inches in height, when (4) four feet was required on this date:

- The front left side of the fence, located along the sidewalk entrance of the playground
- The front right side of the fence, located along the sidewalk entrance of the playground
- The middle of the fence, located on the left side of the playground
- The middle of the fence, located on the right side of the playground
- The back right corner of the 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: 7/31/2025

Prior Visits: 05/11/2023

Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/16/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Met

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/16/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/16/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/16/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2025

Prior Visits: 01/16/2025

Corrected on 7/9/2025

.14(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid for emergency care to infants and children on file as required on this date.

Correction Deadline: 1/27/2025

Prior Visits: 01/16/2025

Corrected on 7/9/2025

.14(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the first aid kit located in the Center contained all supplies as specified by the rule requirements on this date. It was further observed that the first aid kit located on the vehicle used for transportation contained all supplies as specified by the rule requirements on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 2/15/2025

Prior Visits: 01/16/2025

Corrected on 7/9/2025

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed staff member with direct care responsibilities had health and safety training orientation on file as required on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based upon a review of records that Staff #8, hired on January 6, 2022, did not have current evidence of four clock hours of training food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Recited on 7/9/2025

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)- Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date as correction deadline has not yet passed.

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

Prior Visits: 05/11/2023

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/16/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.