



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: 8/25/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:20 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

CCLC-32022

Little Scholars Academy of Atlanta

2591 Jerome Rd. College Park, GA 30349 Fulton County
(404) 761-9026 fcpayton@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Shameka Dozier

Phone: (770) 857-7010

Fax: (770) 357-7009

shameka.dozier@decal.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.
08/25/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/06/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/06/2025	Complaint Closure	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	Downstairs - A	Three Year Olds	1	5	C	21	C	29	C	Circle Time
Main	Rm B Downstairs	Four Year Olds	2	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Rm C- Upstairs	Four Year Olds	2	15	C	39	C	54	C	Circle Time
Main	Rm D -Upstairs	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Rm E-Upstairs		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 99			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 37			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	All Children	218	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	0	7	11	33	0	0

Comments

Playgrounds, Operational Policies & Procedures, language and literacy training, Screened windows, staff files, and pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training was discussed with the provider on 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.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 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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a LS:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 20

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

Comment

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 20

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Records Reviewed: 20**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 20**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(4) - Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure that all bathrooms have screened windows.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2025**Prior Visits: 02/20/2024**

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(7) - Consultant discussed the provider to ensure that rooms not approved for child care, other than the kitchen doors are latched or locked.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2025

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Food Service

Records Reviewed: 20**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 6

Not Met

Records Reviewed: 20**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene**Records Reviewed: 20****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Currently there are no children enrolled who require diapering.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Met****Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**Records Reviewed: 20****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(1)(a-o) - Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center. Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children. Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 8/30/2025**Safety**

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**Met****Comment**

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Staff # 6 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Met

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 # 6 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"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.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)

Met

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) - Consultant discussed with the provider that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2025

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.24(1) - Consultant discussed with the provider to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year.

Correction Deadline: 8/30/2025

Finding

Previously Cited: 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 review of records that staff #4 had two of ten required annual hours of training for 2024 and staff #15 had zero of ten of ten required annual hours of training for 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Previously Cited: The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

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 8/25/2025

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.

Staffing and Supervision

Records Reviewed: 20

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/31/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 15

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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.