



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: 6/21/2023 **VisitType:** LS POI Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM

CCLC-54562

Alphabet Kids Early Care & Learning Academy, LLC

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 (404) 918-0451 alphakidsecla@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

April Brown

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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.
06/21/2023	LS POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
05/15/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Deficient	
05/09/2023	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
Building 1	A		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Building 1	B - 6wks - 9 mths		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Building 1	C - 3's	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	17	C	13	NC	NA	NA	TV
Building 1	Classroom F		0	0	C	28	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Building 1	D- 4's - 12 years old.	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	35	C	49	C	Nap,Circle Time
Building 1	E- 1's- 2's	One Year Olds	1	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 116			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 30			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 116				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building 1	Playground A - 6 wks- 2 years	18	C
Building 1	Playground B - 3 -12 years old	103	C

Comments

LS/POI/FU completed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/21/2023

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 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 for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Shanteria Vaughn, Program Official

Date

April Brown, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a LS POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development. The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on observation lesson plans were not up to date in Classroom C and D. Classroom E did not have a lesson plan posted as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will keep current lesson plans on site that include appropriate instruction practices and activities and will have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the activities.

Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable on this date.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area as required. The director reported and consultant confirmed with the Quality Rated consultant that room arrangement will be done on June 23, 2023.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2023

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities per the director.

Evening Care

591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

Evening care hours provided; however, the director reported the children leave the center no later than 7:00 p.m.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained on this date.

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

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

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****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 the wooden climbing structures on Playground A and Playground B had gaps throughout which caused an entrapment hazard that measured three and 5/8 inches in between each wooden plank.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 7/3/2023**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation there was one inch of resilient surface surrounding the wooden climbing structure and the red, white and blue climbing structure on Playground B instead of six inches which was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 7/1/2023**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure the playgrounds 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. Consultant discussed ensuring there were no weeds protruding throughout the mulch on Playground A and Playground B. Also, consultant discussed ensuring the branches and weeds do not protrude through the back fence on Playground B.

Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure menus are posted and the menu lists all meals and snacks to be served during the current week except for School-age Centers where the food may be provided by the Parent(s) by agreement between the School-age Center and the Parent(s). Substitutions shall be recorded on the posted menu and menus shall be retained at the Center for six (6) months. The director reported and confirmed via email that nutrition consultant has an appointment with the center for a visit set for June 26, 2023.

Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the staff member and director on this date.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means.

Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure staff wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means.

Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023

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

The center currently does not dispense or administer medication at this time.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records the center did not conduct fire drills monthly since reopening in April of 2023 as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 6/26/2023

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/9/2023

Corrected on 6/21/2023

Correction of citation in that the director reported required reporting requirements and how to report to the Department.

Safety

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

Center does not keep animals on premises at this time.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/9/2023

Corrected on 6/21/2023

Correction of citation in that the staff member was suspended without pay for 10 days. The staff member was given the Department's discipline rules and confirmed acknowledgement. Appropriate discipline was observed on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center had not participated in field trips since November 2, 2022.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation at this time due to school being out for the summer. Consultant discussed proper documentation of transportation forms and field trip forms for upcoming field trips with the director on this date.

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director on this date.

Comment

The vehicle with tag number ending in L4073 had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position with the director; however, there were no infants enrolled.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete on this date.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

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

Comment

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s) as required.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required annual staff training for 2022 as required.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations on this date.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2023

Corrected on 6/21/2023

Correction of citation in the staff members involved were suspended and written up for inadequate supervision which was placed in their files. The director discussed with them appropriate supervision techniques. Adequate supervision was observed on this date.