



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: 10/10/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:05 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

CCLC-46137

Scholastic Minds Academy

4395 Ogeechee Road, Unit 105 & 106 Savannah, GA 31405 Chatham County
 (912) 665-0652 jnewsome@scholasticminds.com

Regional Consultant

Laura Johnson

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Mailing Address

4395 Ogeechee Road, Unit 106
 Savannah, GA 31405

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
10/10/2023	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/22/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/02/2022	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	Infants and One Year Olds	3	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Free Play
Main	B	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap, Free Play
Main	C		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 42					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Main II (Left)	Room D	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	23	C	23	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning
Main II (Left)	Room E	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	13	C	13	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main II (Left)	Room F		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 49					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 61			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 91			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Preschool	22	C
Main	B - Infant/Toddler	10	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to complete a complaint investigation and licensing study. The Director stated that the program did not provide any routine transportation, administer medications or provide swimming activities. Criminal Record Checks were observed complete on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/10/2023

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.decga.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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Jeri Newsome, Program Official

Date

Laura Johnson, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study 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)

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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
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Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition	Not Met
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Finding

591-1-1-.15(2)(g) requires that Center Personnel ensure that children do not have excessive amounts of food in their mouths while eating and are chewing their food appropriately to prevent instances of choking. Children shall always be seated when eating and shall not be allowed to lie down or be put to sleep while food is present in their mouths. It was determined based on observation that a child in Classroom A was observed lying on the floor was a bottle in their mouth and their head was not elevated as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that Staff are monitoring the amount of food children put into their mouths and will ensure that children are always seated while eating, and are not laying down.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2023

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures	Met
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Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices	Met
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Comment

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals	Not Evaluated
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Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	Not Evaluated
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Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Not Evaluated
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Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)	Not Met
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Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that one crib mattress in classroom A had a torn mattress with exposed foam making the mattress no longer waterproof as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least two inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2023

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Complete first aid kit observed in the center.

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/22/2023

Corrected on 10/10/2023

.32(2) - This citation was corrected on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.