



**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:** 3/6/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

**CCLC-51829**

**Education Elevation Children's Academy**

5341 Snapfinger Park Drive Stonecrest, GA 30035 DeKalb County  
(770) 680-4730 EducationElevationCA@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

Phone: (770) 357-7016

Fax: (770) 357-7015

cassandra.jakes-beasley@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 03/06/2024                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/29/2023                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02/08/2023                  | LS POI Follow Up | 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-Infants &1's      | Infants         | 1     | 3        | C                               | 25         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play,Feeding |
| Main                            | B-2L-1's & 2's         | Two Year Olds   | 2     | 8        | C                               | 28         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play         |
| Main                            | C-Middle-5 & Up        |                 | 0     | 0        | C                               | 22         | C            | 30         | C            | Not In Use         |
| Main                            | D-Middle Back-4's & Up |                 | 0     | 0        | C                               | 20         | C            | 28         | C            | Not In Use         |
| Main                            | E-3R-4's & Up          | Three Year Olds | 2     | 14       | C                               | 32         | C            | 44         | C            | Floor Play         |
| Main                            | F-2R-4's & Up          | Four Year Olds  | 2     | 21       | C                               | 21         | C            | 29         | C            | Floor Play         |
| Main                            | G-1R-4's & Up          | Three Year Olds | 1     | 7        | C                               | 26         | C            | 37         | C            | Floor Play         |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 174 |                        |                 |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 221 |            |              |            |              |                    |
| Total # Children this Date: 53  |                        |                 |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 221 |            |              |            |              |                    |

| Building | Playground                           | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground A-Left-Infants, 1's & 2's | 18                   | C                     |
| Main     | Playground B-Back-4's & Up           | 171                  | C                     |
| Main     | Playground C-Right-3's               | 27                   | C                     |

### Comments

Licensing Study was conducted on March 6, 2024. Backgrounds checks were reviewed. The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the visit report was given to the Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/06/2024

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.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](http://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.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

---

Shawndae Martin, Program Official

Date

---

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley, Regional Consultant

Date



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 3/6/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 9:00 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-51829

Education Elevation Children's Academy

5341 Snapfinger Park Drive Stonecrest, GA 30035 DeKalb County  
(770) 680-4730 EducationElevationCA@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

Phone: (770) 357-7016

Fax: (770) 357-7015

cassandra.jakes-beasley@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address  
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on observation and statement the center did not have sign in and out sheets for all parents.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain arrival and departure records as required, will ensure the documentation includes all of the required information, and will provide the records to the Department when requested.

Correction Deadline: 3/6/2024

Facility

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(7) - requires Center Staff to ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2024**

**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)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation in Room D, there was an unlocked storage cabinet with Clorox wipes, Febreze air freshener a roll of plastic bags and Lysol spray.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 3/7/2024**

**Recited on 3/6/2024**

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Discussed the standing water on the playground. Please monitor after inclement weather.  
Discussed the plastic covering on the swing chains.

**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 and measurement there was a five inch gap at the bottom of the middle fence panel on the playground on the left side of the building. The fence wiring was bent backward, creating the gap.

**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: 3/6/2024**

**Finding**

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. It was determined based on observation the PVC pipe barrier surrounding the resilient surface was split in with gaps measuring two to three inches wide, creating a potential tripping hazard on the back side of the first enclosed play structure on the large playground. In addition, there was black liner material protruding from the rubber resilient surface, creating a potential tripping hazard.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 3/8/2024**

**Recited on 3/6/2024**

**Food Service**

---

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

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on observation there were eight infant bottles labeled with children's first names.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2024**

---

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

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers.

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

---

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

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

---

**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.17(10) requires that if used potty chairs be emptied in a flush toilet after each use, cleaned with a disinfectant and stored in the bathroom. If a sink is used, the sink shall also be disinfected. It was determined based on observation the toilets were not flushed and potty chairs not emptied in the bathroom of the two-year-old classroom.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will instruct staff to ensure the sanitary use of potty chairs and sinks.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2024**

---

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

|               |
|---------------|
| <b>Safety</b> |
|---------------|

---

**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****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)****Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

---

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

---

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

---

---

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2").

New mats were observed during visit.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2024**

---

**Staff Records**

---

---

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records staff person # 10 did not have their satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter electronically ported over prior to being on the premises with the children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2024**

---

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)****Met****Comment**

Director provided 5 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

---

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

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

---

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Comment**

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.

**Finding**

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 observation three staff members did not have evidence of 10 hours of annual training.

**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: 4/5/2024**

---

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

---

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

---

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.