



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: 3/30/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

CCLC-898

La Petite Academy - Panola

3079 Panola Rd. Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County
 (770) 987-4582 7429@lapetite.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Shannon Curtis

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Joint with: Lisa Pitts

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.
03/30/2023	Licensing Study	Support	
03/23/2023	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
08/31/2022	Monitoring Visit	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-1st Right- 2 y/o	Infants	3	9	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding,Floor Play
Main	B-2nd -Right-1-2 y/o	Two Year Olds	2	16	NC	14	NC	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C- 3rd Right-Infant	One Year Olds	2	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Floor Play
Main	D-Bck-Rt- 4 y/o	GA PreK	2	16	C	22	C	30	C	Story
Main	E- Back Lft- 4 y/o	GA PreK	2	21	C	20	NC	28	C	Transitioning
Main	F-Center- 3 y/o	Three Year Olds	2	20	C	22	C	30	C	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 127					
Total # Children this Date: 92					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 127					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back Playground	101	C
Main	Right Playground	18	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a QA Licensing Study Visit and to follow up to the previous visit conducted on August 31, 2022.

Consultant provided contact information on this date.

POI Visit generated after completion of the visit.

POI Due by April 14, 2023.

Consultant provided a First Aid Checklist on this date.

Consultant observed the Emergency Plan on this date.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 04/14/2023

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 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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Tanya Beasley, Program Official

Date

Shannon Curtis, Consultant

Date

Lisa Pitts, Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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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.

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observations that the 2nd right and the center classroom did not have adequate ventilation in the restrooms on this date.

Correction Deadline: 4/29/2023

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed with the Director movement of children to maintain capacities on this date.

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 consultants observation the following hazards were accessible to children:

- Staff purse in an unlocked closet in far back left classroom
- Diaper rash cream, Orajel and adult-size scissors in an unlocked drawer in the 2nd right classroom
- Broom, dust pan in the 3rd right classroom

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2023

Recited on 3/30/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 fencing/barrier hazards were observed

- Wood fencing on the back left playground was not fully enclosed with a gap that measured over four inches wide

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2023

Recited on 3/30/2023

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 that the large wooden sand table was cracked and splintering in multiple areas. It was further determined that the swing chains on the toddler play area were cracked.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2023

Recited on 3/30/2023

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 the consultants observation that the following hazards were observed:

- Large black sand bags outside of the middle class door, observed on the far left side near the gate.
 - Wooden board loose with exposed nails.
 - Swing chains cracked with rust on the right side playground area.
 - S hook not fully enclosed causing a potential pinching hazard.
 - Wooden sand table with splinters.
 - Soft writing mats used for chalk writing unlevelled causing a potential tripping hazard.
 - Peeling blue paint on the climbing structure with steering wheel on the right side.
 - Unlevelled sidewalk that could cause a potential tripping hazard.
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Correction Deadline: 3/30/2023

Recited on 3/30/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Met

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2022

Corrected on 3/30/2023

Previous citation corrected. Consultant observed diaper changing area free of items not associated with diapering.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure the facility has warm running water to wash the Staff and children's hands with liquid soap throughout the day.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2023

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Policies and Procedures

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

Program observed complete emergency drills as of March 16, 2023 on this date.

Safety

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure the First Aid Kit for the transportation is checked for missing items.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2022

Corrected on 3/30/2023

Previous citation corrected. Consultant observed accurate transportation documentation on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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

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

Director provided two files for employees hired since last visit.

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

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

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

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2022

Corrected on 3/30/2023

Previous citation corrected.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)	Not Met
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Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that on March 30, 2023, a staff:child ratio of 1:21 was observed in the Back Left Classroom. This included four four-year-old children and seventeen five-year old children. A staff:child ratio of 2:21 was required.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2023

Recited on 3/30/2023

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.