



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: 12/6/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:20 PM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

CCLC-53686

International Preparatory Academy

4138 Snapfinger Woods Dr. Decatur, GA 30035 DeKalb County
(404) 288-7992 intlprepacademy@gmail.com

Application Services Unit Consultant

Toni Williams

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Joint with: Margaret Pringle

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.
12/06/2022	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Support	
12/01/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
11/21/2022	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Support	

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) Pre-K 1		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	B -(B) Pre-K 2	Six Year Olds and Over and GA PreK	1	26	NC	25	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C- (BR) 3's	Three Year Olds	1	16	NC	12	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D- (MR)- 4- 13 yr		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	E (FR) - 1's & 2's	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	F (1R) 6wks- 18 mths	Infants	1	6	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 112			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 58			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 112							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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Comments

A category three intake was received for International Preparatory Academy. It was reported that on November 22, 2022, a staff member failed to keep a four-year old child clean when it was stated that the child was left in their soiled clothing for 40 minutes, in an unknown area of the facility. A monitoring visit was completed on this day as well.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/06/2022

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/RuleAndRegulations.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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Shirley Jackson, Program Official	Date
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Margaret Pringle, Consultant	Date
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Toni Williams, Consultant	Date
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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(13) requires Center Staff to develop a daily schedule for each group to reflect routines and activities that is flexible but routinely followed to provide structure. The schedule must be posted in each group's room or area and made available to Parent(s) upon request. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that the schedule in the preschool room was not followed as the children's nap should have ended at 1:00 p.m. and at 1:45 p.m. the children were still napping.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a daily schedule for each age group, post the schedule in each room, and make it available to parents upon request. The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure the schedules are followed and remain posted.

Correction Deadline: 12/9/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.03(7) requires the center to provide outdoor activities daily, weather permitting. It was determined based upon the Consultant's discussion with the teacher that the children in the two-year -old room had not been outside since November 4, 2022 when outdoor time is required when weather is permitting.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will follow a schedule that allows for all children to have the required amount of daily outside play time.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2022

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that the tables in the Pre-K classroom on the right side had rust on the legs of the tables and chairs in the classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2022

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

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on site.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the three-year -old classroom had 16 children and the room was licensed for 12 .

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 11/28/2022****Corrected on 12/6/2022****Citation was corrected on this visit.**

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(10) requires the Center to be in compliance with applicable laws and regulations issued by the state fire marshal, the proper local fire marshal or state inspector, including a certificate of occupancy if required prior to receiving any children for care. It was determined based upon the Consultant's review that the facility had not obtained their Certificate of Occupancy that is required for a permanent license.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will secure a certificate of occupancy.

Correction Deadline: 12/26/2022

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Defer****Defer**

Playground was not observed on this date due to weather.

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: 12/6/2022

Defer

Playground was not observed on this date due to weather.

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: 12/6/2022

Defer

Playground was not observed on this visit due to weather.

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. Swings will not be used.

Correction Deadline: 11/28/2022

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(9) requires Center Staff to not use the area used for diapering for food preparation and to keep the diapering area clear of formulas, food, food utensils and food preparation items. It was determined based upon the Consultant's observation that there were four bowls and one spoon in the diapering area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will be trained, specified areas will be available for food preparation and placement of food-related items, and the director will monitor.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2022

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

Correction Deadline: 11/28/2022

Corrected on 12/6/2022

Citation was corrected on this visit.

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

Discussed medication documentation, administration and storage.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2022

Corrected on 12/6/2022

Citation was corrected by this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

591-1-1-.30(1)(d) requires that all sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged to avoid obstructing access to exit doors, to provide the caregivers access to each child, and to prevent children's access to cords hanging from window treatments and other hazardous objects. To reduce the transfer of airborne diseases, sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged as follows. There shall be a minimum of twenty-four inch (24") corridor between each row of sleeping or resting equipment. There shall be a minimum of twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment. Children shall be placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that the cribs in the baby room and the cots in the two-year-old and the three-year-old room did not have the minimum of twelve inches between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment during nap time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will arrange and place sleeping and resting equipment according to the requirements in the rule; will train Staff; and will monitor for continued compliance.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2022**Correction Deadline: 12/5/2022****Corrected on 12/6/2022****Citation was corrected as of this date.**

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Correction Deadline: 12/21/2022****Corrected on 12/6/2022****.The Citation was corrected on this date.**

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

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. During a Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit conducted on December 6, 2022 ; It was determined based upon the Consultant's observation that the staff: child ratio in the three-year-old classroom was not met when there was a ratio of 1:16 and the required ratio was 2:16.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

Recited on 12/6/2022

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 the ratio in the Pre-K classroom was not met when the ratio was 1:26, consisting of 20 Pre-K students and 6 school-age children. A ratio of 2:26 was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that a three-year-old child was required to be in the two-year-old classroom when he should be housed separately from the younger children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2022

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that the staff member in the three-year-old room was assisting children in the bathroom as well as trying to supervise children in the classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2022

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.03(4) requires the Center to integrate children with special needs into the activities unless contraindicated medically or by written parental agreement. It was determined based on investigative findings which included statements and interviews, that a three year old child was not allowed to integrate with children of his own age because of his special needs and diapering requirements.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to integrate children with special needs into the activities provided. The Center will monitor regularly to ensure this is done regularly and appropriately.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2022

Health and Hygiene

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

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.17(2) requires that Personnel, to the extent possible, keep children clean, dry and comfortable. It was determined based on investigative findings which included statements and interviews that a three- year -old child was not kept clean, dry and comfortable when the child was made to stay unchanged for a period of approximately 40 plus minutes.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train staff, review regularly, and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2022