



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: 10/6/2023 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation/Licensing Study **Arrival:** 1:15 PM **Departure:** 4:30 PM

CCLC-37559

Alpha Preparatory Academy II

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Regional Consultant

Leena Mitchell

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Mailing Address

4462 Mink Livsey Road
 Snellville, GA 30071

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.
10/06/2023	Incident Investigation/Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/04/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/28/2023	Complaint Investigation 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	B-Gabriel		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C-Sarah	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	David		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E-Seraphine		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F-Eagles		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	I-Asher	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	13	C	17	C	23	C	Nap
Main	J- Daniel		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Jonah		0	0	C	17	C	24	C	Not In Use
Main	Michael	Two Year Olds	2	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 156					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 169					
Total # Children this Date: 25			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 156			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 169				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	32	C
Main	B- Preschool	102	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/06/2023

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.al.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 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!

Cera Wallace, Program Official

Date

Leena Mitchell, 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 classrooms.

Comment

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety to the large playground.

Comment

Please ensure all computer monitors are properly secured to avoid a potential tipping hazard.

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

Met

Comment

Please ensure that parents provide and/or update the following information as needed: release to persons' name, phone number, full address and relationship to the child.

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25 - Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Met
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26 - Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazardous items:

- Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e., bees, ants, etc.).
- Vines protruding through the fence becoming accessible to the children present for care.
- Exposed tree roots (i.e., potential tripping hazard, etc.).
- Loose and/or weak tree branches. - Normal wear and tear of playground equipment.
- Normal wear and tear of the fence surrounding the playground areas

Food Service

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

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

Comment

The consultant discussed the revision as of October 1, 2020, which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.16(f) requires the Center to submit an application for an amended License at least 30 days prior to a change if there is a change in the name of the program or Center, changes in the ages of the children to be served, an increase in the regular hours of operation such that the Center would be providing evening or night-time care in addition to day-time care, changes in the services provided, or additions to or changes in the use of the building by the licensed Center. If an emergency situation arises which makes it impossible to give thirty (30) days' notice, the management of the Center shall notify the Department by telephone and shall submit an application for an amended License as soon as management becomes aware of the change that will be necessitated by the emergency situation. In no case, however, shall a new owner operate the Center without first securing a new License or Permit from the Department. It was determined based on review of documents that the middle special use room and the operating hours were not updated prior to use as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

An application for amendment and all necessary documentation will be submitted.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2023

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 review of records that the program did not conduct emergency drills within the previous six month 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: 10/11/2023

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

Observed all required posted notices.

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

Discussed reporting requirements.

Safety

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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.

Comment

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

Comment

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

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Comment

Please ensure that cribs/cots are labeled for individual use.

Staff Records**Comment**

The consultant discussed the following information regarding criminal record checks with the director:

- Monitor the expiration dates of all staff members' criminal record check letters.
- Submit a portability request via DECAL KOALA for newly hired staff members that have a previous satisfactory comprehensive criminal record check letter issued by the department.
- Ensure that all newly hired staff members have evidence of a satisfactory comprehensive criminal record check letter prior to providing services to children present for care.
- Ensure that all newly hired and/or seasonal staff members with a six month (180 days) break of employment from child care submit an updated criminal record check application and complete the fingerprinting process prior to rendering services for child care services.

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 review of records that staff member #13, hired on July 10, 2023, had a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that was within the 12 month portability period, but had not been electronically ported as required. Staff member #13 was observed working alone in the classroom with children present on this date. Consultant assisted provider in porting the staff member before ending the visit. A one-day letter and video training affiliated was left on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will 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: 10/6/2023

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

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

Comment

Please be mindful of training expiration dates.

Comment

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

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

Documentation observed of required staff training.

Comment

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.

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)**Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date. Please ensure that staff members are attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arms length away from children 36-months of age and younger.