



**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:** 8/23/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:50 AM    **Departure:** 1:00 PM

**CCLC-39671**

**Reading World Academy**

2491 Columbia Drive Decatur, GA 30034 DeKalb County  
 (404) 288-2721 hilson7@aol.com

**Regional Consultant**

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

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**Mailing Address**

2491 Columbia Drive  
 Decatur, GA 30034-1770

**Quality Rated:** ★

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                   |               | <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. |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 08/23/2023                         | Licensing Study   | Support       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 03/23/2023                         | Monitoring Visit  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/28/2022                         | Complaint Closure | 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                     |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Suite 1                        | Rm. A/ 3 year olds     | Three Year Olds                   | 1                              | 5        | C    | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play, Transitioning |
| Suite 1                        | Rm. B-1/ two year olds | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds | 1                              | 3        | C    | 12         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play                 |
| Suite 1                        | Room B2                |                                   | 0                              | 0        | C    | 10         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use                |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 37 |                        |                                   | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0  |          |      |            |              |            |              |                           |
| Suite 2                        | PreK A - Front Right   | Four Year Olds                    | 1                              | 5        | C    | 25         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play                |
| Suite 2                        | School age-Back Right  |                                   | 0                              | 0        | C    | 28         | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use                |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 53 |                        |                                   | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0  |          |      |            |              |            |              |                           |
| Total # Children this Date: 13 |                        |                                   | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 90 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                           |
|                                |                        |                                   | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0  |          |      |            |              |            |              |                           |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|

**Comments**

The Licensing Study was conducted on August 23, 2023. Background checks and staff files were reviewed. The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the Visit report.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/23/2023

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.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.

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#### 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.

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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 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Christine Hilson, Program Official

Date

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Cassandra Jakes-Beasley, Regional 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-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.03(7 requires the center to provide outdoor activities daily, weather permitting. Please ensure that the posted schedules are clear and up to date.

Correction Deadline: 8/23/2023

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - 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.

**Correction Deadline: 8/23/2023**

**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 observation there was deteriorating wood on the right top side of the climber and on the benches of the picnic table and there were tree branches throughout the resilient surface. The rubber mats were not flushed with the resilient surface at the entry doors to the Afterschool and infant classrooms, creating a potential tripping hazard. Small playground- There was chipping paint in the inside of the blue tunnel and the base was exposed on the yellow and red race car with the bolts exposed.

**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: 8/23/2023**

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**Food Service**

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

**Comment**

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight container, labeled and dated.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

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

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

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

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

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. Please ensure all crib mattress(es) are firm.

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**Staff Records**

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

**Comment**

Director provided [1 ] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of documentation that staff member #2 Comprehensive Records Check expired March 26, 2023. The staff person was present and teaching in room A .

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. 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 to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 8/23/2023**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined determined based on a review of documentation that staff member #2 Comprehensive Records Check expired March 26, 2023. The staff person was present and teaching in room A . The date of employment was April 4, 2018.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. 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 to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 8/23/2023**

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

**Correction Deadline: 8/24/2023**

**Corrected on 8/23/2023**

**.33(5) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected, in that based on a review of the Georgia Professional Development System (GA-PDS), it was determined that the Director had completed 10 hours of annual training for calendar year 2022.**

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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**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 observation children were not supervised at all times when a staff member left the classroom to come to the front office area, upon consultants arrival at the center, leaving five four-year-old children without direct supervision.

**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: 8/23/2023**

**Recited on 8/23/2023**