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: 12/18/2023 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 11:50 AM **Departure:** 1:55 PM

CCLC-37871

Lemon Tree Academy

1290 N Cherokee Road Social Circle, GA 30052 Walton County
(770) 464-0768 tiffany@lemontreeacademysc.com

Special Investigations Unit Sr. Specialist

Lesley Barrett

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Mailing Address
1290 N Cherokee Road
Social Circle, GA 30025

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
12/18/2023	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing
11/30/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
06/27/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

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.

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Building II	Left	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	13	C	22	C	31	C	Nap
Building II	Right	Three Year Olds	2	9	C	22	C	30	C	Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 44			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 44					
Main	A/Front	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	28	C	39	C	Nap
Main	B/1R	One Year Olds	2	7	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C Back R	Infants	1	2	C	5	C	NA	NA	Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 122					
Total # Children this Date: 41		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 94			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 44			Building @25 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG/A/Right	79	C
Main	PG/B/Left	34	C

Comments
The purpose of this investigation was to conduct an incident investigation and follow up the previous visit that was conducted on November 30, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.decal.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)

QUALITY RATED CHILD CARE

CAPS CHILDCARE AND PARENT SERVICES

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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free techincal assistance is available!**

Tiffany Tolbert, Program Official Date

Lesley Barrett, Special Investigations Unit Sr. Specialist Date