



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: 7/8/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

CCLC-586
El Shaddai Academy
 5650 Skidaway Rd. Savannah, GA 31406 Chatham County
 (912) 351-0064

Regional Consultant
 Connie Boatright
 Phone: (912) 544-9701
 Fax: (912) 544-9700
 connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

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.
07/08/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/07/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/03/2024	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
First	Room A	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap,Story,Transitioning,Lunch
First	Room B	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	7	C	NA	NA	Story,Lunch,Nap,Transitioning
First	Room C	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap,Lunch,Transitioning,Story
First	Room E	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch,Feeding,Nap,Free Play,Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			46		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Second	Pre-K	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	17	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			22		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Third	3's		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			12		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 46			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 80		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
First	Playground (Front)	23	C
Second	Pre-K Playground	15	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	8	11	7	19	0	51

Comments

The provider stated no medication is administered. No field trips, routine transportation, or swimming activities are provided. The center director reported that no new staff have been hired since the last visit.

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.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!



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Summary Report

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Arrival: 10:30 AM Departure: 2:45 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.03(2) - The consultant observed current GELDS Lesson Plans posted in all classrooms in use.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2025

Comment

The consultant observed a variety of age-appropriate activities throughout the center.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2025

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

Met

Comment

Toys and equipment were observed to be clean and in good repair.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center. The consultant observed a total of forty-eight children present.

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

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute resilient surface under the blue climbing dome and two swings on the Pre-K playground and under the two swings on the front playground.

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 1 eight foot wood fence panel has come loose from the top to the bottom of the panel leaving a 1 inch gap at the bottom of the panel up to a 9 inch gap at the top of the panel posing as an entrapment and escape hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center director contacted maintenance and scheduled them to repair the fence on Saturday, July 12, 2025. Center staff will ensure extra supervision when children are on the playground.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2025

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 following hazards were present:

Front Playground:

- Two of two black handlebars were chipping paint, and four of four bolts were rusting on the red springy airplane.
- The red metal car with four blue steering wheels were chipping paint and four of four bolts connecting the steering wheels were rusting.
- The red metal basketball goal was chipping paint.

Pre-K Playground:

- The red metal bars on the tic tac toe toy is chipping paint.
- Four of four wood boards located on the front right corner were weathered and splintering.
- The metal center plate of the merry go round is rusting. The black rubber surrounding the round metal center plate of the merry go round is weathered and splitting exposing small loose particles of rust.

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: 7/18/2025

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 that bamboo limbs were protruding from the outside of the fence to the inside of the playground area and accessible to the children.

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: 7/8/2025

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.07(5) - The center director and center staff will ensure that children do not wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

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

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. - Staff # 10 is currently enrolled and actively participating in CDA classes with an anticipated graduation date of December 31, 2025.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2025

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios. All classrooms in use had the correct number of staff to children ratio as required.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.