



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 4/19/2022    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 11:15 AM    **Departure:** 12:20 PM

**CCLC-51801**

**Early Scholars Learning Academy, LLC**

1427 East 37th Street Savannah, GA 31404 Chatham County  
 (912) 238-0646 earlyscholarslearningacademy@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407

Fax: (706) 806-0406

stacey.foston@dec.al.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**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.
04/19/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/15/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/08/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

**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
Childcare Building	Room 1	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	7	C	9	C	NA	NA	Music
Childcare Building	Room 2	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	9	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Lunch
Childcare Building	Room 3		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Childcare Building	Room 4	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	9	NC	NA	NA	Transitioning, Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 36					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 26			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 36			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Childcare Building	Playground	41	C

**Comments**

An in-person visit was conducted on April 19, 2022. The administrative review was completed April 27, 2022. The Consultant completed exit conference by phone and a copy of the monitoring visit report was electronically emailed to the Program on May 4, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/19/2022

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/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



### 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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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](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.'

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)

Toenice Johnson, Program Official

Date

Stacey Foston, 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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed movement of children to maintain capacities.

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that in room 4, cleaning supplies were stored in an unlocked cabinet under the classroom sink and was accessible to the children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will place a child lock on the cabinet. The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 4/19/2022**

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

591-1-1-.26 - Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Also discussed ensuring the staff follows the manufactures guidelines for the new playground equipment. The center will also remove the old wooden benches from the playground.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****N/A****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.

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****N/A****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**

There are no infants enrolled in this program. The children's bedding was stored as required.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 5****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 02/14/2022

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 09/01/2020

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 09/18/2019

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 09/08/2020

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 04/15/2020

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 10/15/2021**

**Corrected on 4/19/2022**

**.14(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. More than 50% of the staff has current CPR and first aid training.**

**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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.