



**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:** 2/24/2023    **VisitType:** POI Follow Up    **Arrival:** 10:05 AM    **Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-32497**

**Grace Learning Academy**

3981 Glenwood Road Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County  
(404) 228-2175 gracelearningacademy@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
02/24/2023	POI Follow Up	Deficient
12/01/2022	Monitoring Visit	Support
06/15/2022	Licensing Study	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
Main	1st right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	1st left	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	2nd left	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	9	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	2nd right		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 48

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 17

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 48

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Play	25	C

**Comments**

An on-site inspection was conducted on February 24, 2023 with the Provider Crystal Williams. Background checks were all reviewed on February 24, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 03/10/2023

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.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](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)

**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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Valorie Brown, Program Official

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Date

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Jessica Johnson, Consultant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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Same

The following information is associated with a POI Follow Up:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023**

**Corrected on 2/24/2023**

**.03(1) - Citation corrected. Consultant reviewed all lesson plans.**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that the shelf between the two tables in the 2nd right classroom wobbled and was potentially unstable. It was further determined that the shelf next to the blue wall on the left side in the 2nd right classroom wobbled and was potentially unstable. It was also determined based on observation that the shelf at the front entrance door to the 2nd left classroom wobbled and was potentially unstable.

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**Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023**

**Recited on 2/24/2023**

**Facility**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.06(6) requires Center Staff to equip bathrooms with soap, toilet tissue and single-use towels or cloth towels used only once between launderings. It was determined based on observation that the bathroom located across from the 2nd left classroom was not equipped with single-use towels.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2023

Recited on 2/24/2023

Correction Deadline: 12/1/2022

Corrected on 2/24/2023

.25(12) - Citation corrected. No heater observed accessible to children in care.

Correction Deadline: 12/2/2022

Corrected on 2/24/2023

.25(13) - Citation corrected. Consultant did not observed any hazardous material accessible to children in care.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the toilet in the back rear restroom across from the 2nd left classroom would not flush on this date.

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**Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023**

**Recited on 2/24/2023**

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical Met**

**Correction Deadline: 12/15/2022**

**Corrected on 2/24/2023**

**.25(14) -Citation corrected. Consultant observed appropriate lighting in the classroom.**

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

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**Correction Deadline: 12/15/2022**

**Corrected on 2/24/2023**

**.26(4) - Citation corrected. Hazard observed repaired.**

**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 blue rectangle table had a broken right front table leg and was potentially unstable.

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**Correction Deadline: 3/11/2023**

**Recited on 2/24/2023**



**Finding**

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that there was no warm running water available for staff to wash their hands properly in the 2nd left classroom. It further determined based on observation that there was no hot water available in the kitchen.

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**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2023**

**Recited on 2/24/2023**

**Policies and Procedures**

**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures** **Met**

**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2023**

**Corrected on 2/24/2023**

**.21(p) - Citation corrected. Consultant reviewed the emergency preparedness plan.**

**Safety**

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

**Correction Deadline: 12/2/2022**

**Corrected on 2/24/2023**

**.36(4)(c) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed the fire extinguisher in the vehicle.**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Staff Records**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on review of records that staff # 5 did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site prior to being present at the site.

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**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2023**

**Finding**

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 review of records that staff member #5 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child were present for care on this date.

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**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2023**

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

**Correction Deadline: 12/2/2022**

**Corrected on 2/24/2023**

**.14(3) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed the first aid kit in the vehicle.**

**Staffing and Supervision**



**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 that a staff member left nine children unsupervised in the 1st right classroom to open the door for the Consultant. It was further determined that a four-year-old child was observed to walk out of the 1st right classroom into the 2nd left classroom without adult supervision. It was also determined based on observation that a four-year-old child was observed to walk out of the 1st right classroom into the back rear restroom without adult supervision.

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**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2023**