



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: 11/8/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 8:20 AM **Departure:** 3:45 PM

CCLC-54763

Scholars Tech, LLC

1535 Columbia Drive Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
 (404) 549-9058 glenda@scholarstech.org

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
11/08/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
11/08/2022	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/11/2022	Complaint Closure	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
Main Building	Center Front-B1	One Year Olds	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	Left Front-A	Infants	1	3	C	7	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main Building	Middle Cafe-C	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	8	C	14	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main Building	Rear Lower Level-F	Four Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	12	C	34	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	Rear Upper Level-D/E	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	38	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main Building	Right Front-B2	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 112						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 46			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 112			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main Building	Infant/Toddler	76	C
Main Building	Three-Year-Olds-School Age	125	C

Comments

An onsite inspection was conducted on November 8, 2022 with the Director Kamaria Jackson Background checks were all reviewed on November 8, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/08/2022

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.al.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)



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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Glenda Morton, Program Official

Date

Jessica Johnson, Consultant

Date



**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

(Findings Report)

Date: 11/8/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 8:20 AM **Departure:** 3:45 PM

CCLC-54763

Scholars Tech, LLC

1535 Columbia Drive Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
(404) 549-9058 glenda@scholarstech.org

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based on observation that the floor area in front of the changing table was not smooth and was bulging in classroom A.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2022

Correction Deadline: 8/5/2022

Corrected on 11/8/2022

.25(13) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed citations corrected in the mentioned classrooms.

Technical Assistance

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 observation that the following hazards were observed:

Infant room
-Sanitizer on lower shelf.

Right Front-B2
- Grocery bag in cubby.
- Hanging air conditioner cord.

Rear Upper Level D/E
- Hanging air conditioner cord.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2022

Technical Assistance

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 there was peeling paint on the left side wall under the clock in classroom Center Front-B1. It was further determined that there was rust on the floor vent in classroom A.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2022

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

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 there was a protruding nail on the back right side of the fence.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 11/22/2022

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 the following hazards were observed on the playground:

Three-year-old/School Age playground
- Water hose located on the left side of the exit door and accessible to children.
- Exposed drainage pipe behind the tree near the basketball court.

Three-year-old/School Age playground (small fenced portion)
- Small hole located on the left side of the three- year-old playground.

Infant/toddler playground.
- Exposed concrete on the right side fence.
- Discarded rug at Classroom B1 exit door to playground.

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: 11/8/2022

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2)(a) requires Center Personnel to hold and feed infants less than six months of age and older children who cannot hold their own bottles or sit alone. Baby bottles shall never be propped; the infant's head shall be elevated while feeding. It was determined based on observation that infant less than six months of age was observed not holding their bottle when the infant was observed drinking a bottle in the bouncy seat.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to hold infants less than six months old or who can not hold their own bottle, to never prop bottles and to elevate infant's heads during feeding. The director will monitor Staff to ensure appropriate feeding procedures are followed.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2022

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2022

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)

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Not Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed in vehicle #TEE3016.

- Exposed foam on the right side of the front seat.
- Two tears in the seat on the left side of the front seat.
- Sharp edges on the front seat, left side wall panel.
- Jumper cables in the center between the driver and passenger seat.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 11/22/2022

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

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

Correction Deadline: 7/29/2022

Corrected on 11/8/2022

.09(1)(j) - Citation observed corrected. Consultant reviewed all staff criminal records checks.

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

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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)	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 that the Consultant observed three three-year-old children in the restroom without adult 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: 11/8/2022