



**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:** 4/14/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:00 AM

**Departure:** 12:00 PM

**CCLC-36868**

**International Academia of Smyrna**

3551 North Cooper Lake Road Smyrna, GA 30082 Cobb County  
 (678) 653-8419 amanda@iaofsmyna.com

**Mailing Address**

428 Woodvalley Court  
 Smyrna, GA 30082

**Regional Consultant**

Evelyn McBurse

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evelyn.mcburse@decal.ga.gov

**Quality Rated:** No

<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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
04/14/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/16/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/08/2020	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
Bldg 2	Downstairs-Back Room	Four Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Bldg 2	Downstairs-Main Room	Four Year Olds	1	9	C	27	C	NA	NA	Art
Bldg 2	Room Left	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	6	C	NA	NA	Art
Bldg 2	Room Right	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Art
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 34			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations			
Main	A- Infants -1st Left	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B- 1's		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- 2's 2nd Left	One Year Olds	2	7	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	D- Preschool-Downstairs		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-1st Right Downstairs- 3sS	Two Year Olds	2	6	C	9	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	F-Downstairs -4's	Three Year Olds	2	8	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 70			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 57		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 104			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bldg 2	Bldg 2 Playground	52	C
Main	A- Back of Bldg	30	C

### Comments

An virtual inspection was conducted on April 14, 2022 with the Provider. An Administrative Review was conducted on April 21, 2022. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed.

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



### 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)

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Acela Cardenas-Vela, Program Official

Date

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Evelyn McBurse, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### 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)**

**Not Evaluated**

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards: - Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys. Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area. Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.). Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area. Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather. Fall zones and resilient surface.

### Food Service

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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**Comment**

Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. Discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s). As soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods, the child shall be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child.

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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff stated proper hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.20(1) - Please ensure to obtain the signature of parent and date on medication authorization forms.

**Correction Deadline: 4/14/2022**

<b>Policies and Procedures</b>
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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)****Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 17****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2021	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 01/01/2022	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 01/01/2017	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 02/01/2022	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 01/01/2017	
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 10/01/2021	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 07/01/2018	

Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 01/01/2021	
Staff # 13	Met
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 09/01/2018	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2020	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2021	
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 02/01/2022	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

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

**Comment**

Director provided six files for employees hired since last visit on February 16, 2021.

**Correction Deadline: 2/16/2021**

**Corrected on 4/14/2022**

**.09(1)(c) - Correction of the previous citation in that all staff members were observed to have satisfactory comprehensive criminal record checks on this date.**

**Correction Deadline: 2/16/2021**

**Corrected on 4/14/2022**

**.09(1)(l)3. - Correction of the previous citation in that all staff members were observed to have satisfactory comprehensive criminal record checks on this date.**

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5) - Please ensure each staff member completes annual training.

**Correction Deadline: 5/14/2022**

**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**

Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: 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.

**Comment**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.