



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: 10/4/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM

Departure: 1:00 PM

CCLC-18199

AppleGate Academy & Preschool

3050 Mt. Zion Rd. Stockbridge, GA 30281 Clayton County
 (678) 565-7311 applegateacademy@comcast.net

Mailing Address
 Same

Regional Consultant

Lisa Pitts

Phone: (678) 747-6859

Fax: (706) 314-7903

lisa.prather@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Karyn Presley

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.
10/04/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/11/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/04/2021	Licensing Study	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	A- Front L	Infants	2	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering
Main	B- 2L		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C- 3L	One Year Olds	1	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D- 4L		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E- 5L	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F- 6L	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	G- Back R	PreK	2	11	C	30	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	H- 2R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	I- 1R	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			
Total # Children this Date: 70					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG- Left	38	C
Main	PG- Right	47	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.decgal.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



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@decgal.ga.gov 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 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)

Shannon Atchison, Program Official

Date

Lisa Pitts, Consultant

Date

Karyn Presley, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 10/4/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the following hazards were observed:

Room F: Paper blocks torn in multiple places and the wooden table had began to splint.

Room E: Paint peeling on cabinets near sink area.

Room H: Cracked bins, rusted tissue holder, and dramatic play area kitchen set door was coming off of the hinges.

Room C: Cracked bins

Room A: Both mobile swings were missing a piece of the bottom leaving a small hole accessible.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 10/4/2022

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

Met

Comment

Per the Director. "The 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.

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 the following hazards were accessible to the children in care:

Room F: Toilet bowl brush in the bathroom, destine cream and aquaphor cream stored in a child's cubby.

Room G: Sharpie markers, tape dispenser, staplers, clorox spray, odor ban spray, and purell hand sanitizer spray were all in an unlocked space.

Room H: Toilet bowl brush in the bathroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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: 10/4/2022

Recited on 10/4/2022

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

591-1-1-.26 -The consultant and director discussed the maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - The consultant and director discussed that the department 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

Correction Deadline: 10/4/2022

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 the consultant's observation that the following hazards were observed.

PG Right: The yellow car is missing a steering wheel, two bikes where cracked on the seats, two riding toys were missing seat covers, and the large yellow and blue equipment missing a screw causing a possible pinching hazard.

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: 10/4/2022

Recited on 10/4/2022

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The consultant and director discussed the tree roots on PG-L and the cracked sidewalk causing a potential tripping hazard on PG-R on this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/4/2022

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(6) - The consultant and director discussed that the department requires garbage and organic waste to be stored in containers that are lined with plastic liners and have tight-fitting covers.

Correction Deadline: 10/4/2022

Safety

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)**Met****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2022**Corrected on 10/4/2022****.30(1)(a)3 - Previous citations corrected. All sheets were tight fitting on this date.****Correction Deadline: 5/11/2022****Corrected on 10/4/2022****.30(1)(b)1 - Previous citations corrected. Mats did not have any major rips and tears on this date.**

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 20**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1 Met

Staff # 2 Met

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 10/30/2006

Staff # 4 Met

Staff # 5 Met

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 10/04/2021

Records Reviewed: 20**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Met
Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 04/04/2022	
Staff # 13	Met
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 09/13/2021	
Staff # 15	Met
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 07/28/2022	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 02/02/2021	
Staff # 18	Met
Staff # 19	Met
Date of Hire: 06/16/2021	
Staff # 20	Met
Date of Hire: 07/05/2022	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2022

Corrected on 10/4/2022

.32(1) - Previous citations corrected.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.