



**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:** 5/16/2022    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up    **Arrival:** 10:20 AM    **Departure:** 12:00 PM

**CCLC-49742**

**Simply The Best Academy**

3800 Big Miller Grove Way Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County  
 (678) 404-8821 simplythebestacademy@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Kaycee Purvis  
 Phone: (770) 357-4915  
 Fax: (404) 478-8085  
 kaycee.purvis@decal.ga.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.  <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.
05/16/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Support	
04/27/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/28/2021	Complaint Investigation by Phone	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	
Main	A/1L- 5-7 years	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Homework	
Main	B/L Middle- 3 years		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA		
Main	C/R Middle- 2 year olds	Infants and One Year Olds	1	2	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Free Play	
Main	D/2R- 4 and up		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA		
Main	E/1R- 3 years	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	TV	
Main	F- Front middle - 6weeks- 23 months	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			82			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:					0
Total # Children this Date: 27			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:					0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG	37	C

**Comments**

An electronic copy of the Complaint Investigation and Follow Up visit was emailed to the Provider. An exit conference was conducted virtually.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/16/2022

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)

Margaret Mathis, Program Official

Date

Kaycee Purvis, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 5/16/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation **Arrival:** 10:20 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM  
Follow Up

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

**Facility**

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

**Not Met**

**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 upon observation that there were a pack of Huggies Aloe & Vitamin E baby wipes, a pack of Comfort baby wipes, and a pack of Huggies Natural Care baby wipes in a child's cubby in Classroom E. It was also determined that a pack of Parents Choice wipes and a stapler were on a desk accessible to children in Classroom A. It was further determined that a staff purse was accessible to children on the floor in Classroom A.

**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: 6/28/2022**

**Recited on 5/16/2022**

**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 the right side fence had a gap measures more than three and a half inches from the ground to 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: 7/8/2022**

**Recited on 5/16/2022**

**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 an observation that the following areas of equipment were in need of repair:

- a broken swing was observed to be hanging from the equipment
- a ball toss was observed to have a white mildew like residue present that was observed to rub off onto hands

**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: 7/8/2022**

**Recited on 5/16/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the slide entrance had three inches of resilient surfacing when six inches was required. It was also determined that the slide exit had two inches of resilient surfacing when six inches was required. It was further determined that the climber had one inch of resilient surfacing when six inches was required. It was also determined that the swings had one inch of resilient surfacing when six inches was required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

**Correction Deadline: 7/8/2022**

**Recited on 5/16/2022**

**Safety**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022**

**Corrected on 5/16/2022**

**.36(7)(c)2. - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed completed documentation for transportation on this date.**

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022**

**Corrected on 5/16/2022**

**.36(7)(c)3. - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed completed transportation documentation on this date.**

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 8**

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

Staff # 1

Met

Staff # 2

Met

**Records Reviewed: 8**

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

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Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 1**

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

**Correction Deadline: 4/27/2022**

**Corrected on 5/16/2022**

**.09(1)(a) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letters for all staff on this date.**

**Correction Deadline: 4/27/2022**

**Corrected on 5/16/2022**

**.09(1)(c) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letters for all staff on this date.**