



**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: 4/18/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 2:00 PM **Departure:** 3:30 PM

CCLC-27756

Echols Learning Academy

3900 Bakers Ferry Road Atlanta, GA 30331 Fulton County
(404) 696-5009 jamesjechols@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Michelle Smith

Phone: (404) 478-8183

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michelle.smith@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
04/18/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/24/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
02/25/2021	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
Total # Children this Date:		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 0			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Outside	48	C

Comments

visit completed

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.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 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 for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Vickie Spann, Program Official

Date

Michelle Smith, 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

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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)

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2021

Corrected on 4/18/2022

.25(13) - The bathrooms were observed to clean and free of hazards.

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 there was chipping paint on the walls near the hand washing sink in the Far Left Classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 5/6/2022

Recited on 4/18/2022

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

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 empty milk crates were present on the wooden modular ramp used to access the playground. In addition, there was an area of the sidewalk that was not flushed and leveled with the ground, posing potential tripping hazards for children.

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: 4/22/2022

Recited on 4/18/2022

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) Met

Comment

Staff stated proper hand washing procedure.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals Met

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-.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.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

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

Consultant observed two of two program staff to have valid evidence of Satisfactory Comprehensive Criminal Record Check Determination letters issued by the Department.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Defer****Correction Deadline: 2/26/2021****Corrected on 4/18/2022**

.33(3) - Consultant observed staff to have valid evidence of completing the Health and Safety training as required.

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)- Consultant observed program staff to be new hires, and still within their one year anniversary to complete training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Previously Cited: The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2020

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 2/25/2022****Corrected on 4/18/2022**

.31(1)(b)2. - Consultant observed program director to have a valid certificate of completing the 40-Hour Director's training.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I) - (VIII) - Consultant discussed with the program to ensure that one staff person hired on March 29, 2022, has a completed professional development plan on file.

Correction Deadline: 4/18/2022

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: 9/24/2021

Corrected on 4/18/2022

.32(7) - Consultant observed adequate supervision on this date.