



**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:** 7/15/2021    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 11:00 AM

**Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-48426**

**Connect Learning Academy**

3915 Old Gordon Road Atlanta, GA 30331 Fulton County  
(404) 691-3456 toshabaker@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Michelle Smith

Phone: (404) 478-8183

Fax: (678) 717-5636

michelle.smith@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.
07/15/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/24/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/14/2020	Complaint Closure	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 - 1R		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B - Mid Back	Six Year Olds and Over	1	11	C	22	C	31	C	Outside
Main	C - Mid Front	Four Year Olds	1	5	C	20	C	28	C	Lunch
Main	D - 1L	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	22	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 96				
Total # Children this Date: 20			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 96				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Front	21	C
Main	B - Back	63	C

**Comments**

Virtual visit conducted on this date.  
Report emailed on this date.

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



### Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://decal.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

Tosha Baker, Program Official

Date

Michelle Smith, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**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)**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 10/30/2020**

**Corrected on 7/15/2021**

.25(11) - Consultant observed that the carpet was cleaned, and there was no evidence of water damage in the middle back classroom. The director stated that an additional water drainage was installed.

**Correction Deadline: 3/24/2021**

**Corrected on 7/15/2021**

.25(13) - Consultant observed that there were no hazards accessible to the children during the visit.

**Correction Deadline: 10/16/2020**

**Corrected on 7/15/2021**

.25(3) - Consultant observed the door to be properly secured, and anchored.

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Hand washing requirements was discussed with the director.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

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

591-1-1-.36(4)(c)- This citation is deferred until the program begins provided regulatory transportation.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will ensure that each vehicle has a working fire extinguisher and that the fire extinguisher is kept out of reach of children.

**Correction Deadline: 3/24/2021**

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 9/14/2020****Corrected on 7/15/2021****.30(1)(b)3 - Consultant observed individual sheets and blankets assigned to children as required.**

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**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 7****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2018

**Records Reviewed: 7**

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

Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 02/26/2018	Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 06/05/2019	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 01/03/2019	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 06/21/2019	Met
Staff # 7	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2**

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

**Comment**

Consultant observed seven (7) of seven center staff to have valid Satisfactory Comprehensive Criminal Records Check Determination letters issued by the Department as required.

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training** **Defer**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)- This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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: 12/31/2021**

**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)** **Defer**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.- This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

**Correction Deadline: 3/24/2021**

**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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

