



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: 10/11/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 1:00 PM

Departure: 1:40 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

Melyn Smith

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Mailing Address

Same

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.
10/11/2022	Monitoring Visit	Support	
10/04/2022	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
06/30/2022	Complaint Closure	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/1L- 5-7 years	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	12	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap	
Main	B/L Middle- 3 years		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA		
Main	C/R Middle- 2 year olds	Infants	1	2	C	9	C	NA	NA	Nap,TV	
Main	D/2R- 4 and up		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA		
Main	E/1R- 3 years		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA		
Main	F- Front middle - 6weeks- 23 months	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:					82	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:					0
Total # Children this Date: 24			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			82	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:				0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG	37	C

Comments

A virtual inspection was conducted on this date with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. An Administrative Review was conducted on October 12, 2022. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. The Consultant completed exit conference virtually and a copy of the monitoring visit report was electronically emailed to the Program on October 13, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 10/25/2022

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 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)

Margaret Mathis, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date



**Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
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Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Findings Report

Date: 10/11/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 1:00 PM

Departure: 1:40 PM

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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

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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

N/A

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2022

Corrected on 10/11/2022

.25(13) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that no hazards were observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2022

Corrected on 10/11/2022

.26(4) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the playgrounds were observed to be protected from traffic and other hazards by a fence measuring at least four feet high and observed to be in good repair on this date.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2022

Corrected on 10/11/2022

.26(6) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the playground equipment was observed to be in good repair and free of hazards on this date.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2022

Corrected on 10/11/2022

.26(8) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the climbing and swinging equipment was observed to have a resilient surface measuring six inches beneath the equipment and in the fall zones on this date.

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 were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **N/A**

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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) **Not Met**

Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

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Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined, based on review of records, that the driver or other designated person did not document in writing with a check or other mark/symbol the unloading of the vehicle for the following:

- The unloading of 12 children at the end of afternoon routine transportation at the center from Flat Rock Elementary on September 30, 2022.
- The unloading of three children at the end of afternoon routine transportation at the center from Fairington Elementary on September 30, 2022.
- Two children were not marked absent for the unloading of the vehicle for afternoon routine transportation from Flat Rock Elementary to the Center on October 6, 2022.
- The loading and unloading of three children was not marked for morning or afternoon transportation to/from the Center to/from Fairington Elementary on October 7, 2022.

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Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined, based on review of records, that the Center failed to document the following times:

- The unload time for afternoon routine transportation from Fairington Elementary to the Center was not documented for September 30, 2022.
- The times for departure from the center, load time at Flat Rock Elementary, and arrival to the center were not documented for afternoon routine transportation on October 6, 2022.

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Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1. requires that the first check be conducted immediately upon unloading the last child at any location including, but not limited to, a field trip destination, arrival at the Center, and the last stop during transportation to home or school. The responsible person on the vehicle shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; sign the passenger transportation checklist (s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle; and give the passenger transportation checklist(s) to the second designated Staff person. It was determined, based on review of records, that the first check of the vehicle was not documented for routine transportation on the afternoon of October 6, 2022, as required.

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Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined, based on review of records, that the second checks of the vehicle was not documented at the completion of afternoon routine transportation from Fairington Elementary and from Flat Rock Elementary to the Center on October 6, 2022.

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Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 9 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1 Met
Date of Hire: 06/06/2020

Staff # 2 Met

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Date of Hire: 11/04/2021

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 07/13/2021

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 02/08/2021

Staff # 5 Met

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 09/04/2019

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 09/04/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 09/04/2019

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 01/16/2022

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 1

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

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

Correction Deadline: 6/30/2022

Corrected on 10/11/2022

.32(7) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that staff were observed to provide direct supervision and watchful oversight during the virtual walk through on this date.