



**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:** 2/7/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:25 AM    **Departure:** 1:00 PM

**CCLC-52036**

**Lemontree Academy LLC**

1031 Fairgrounds Rd. Madison, GA 30650 Morgan County  
 (770) 464-0768 corissaeakin@lemontreeacademy.com

**Regional Consultant**

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455  
 Fax: (706) 434-7640  
 melyn.smith@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Shannon Curtis

**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.
02/07/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/25/2022	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
09/29/2022	Incident Investigation 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	Infants	2	5	C	6	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding
Main	B-2R	One Year Olds	3	15	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	C-3R	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D-4R	GA PreK	2	22	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E-3L	GA PreK	2	20	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F - 2L	GA PreK	2	20	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	G - 1L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	19	C	30	C	NA	NA	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:						137	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0	
Total # Children this Date: 116			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			137	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Lt Side	41	C
Main	Rear	271	C
Main	Rt Side	33	C

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and to follow up on the previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/07/2023

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.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](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)



#### 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.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

---

Corissa Eakin, Program Official

Date

---

Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date

---

Shannon Curtis, Consultant

Date



**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

**(Findings Report)**

**Date:** 2/7/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:25 AM    **Departure:** 1:00 PM

**CCLC-52036**

**Lemontree Academy LLC**

1031 Fairgrounds Rd. Madison, GA 30650 Morgan County  
(770) 464-0768 corissaeakin@lemontreeacademy.com

**Regional Consultant**

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455  
Fax: (706) 434-7640  
melyn.smith@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Shannon Curtis

**Mailing Address**  
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**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.

**Children's Records**

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**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 observation, that the following potential hazards were observed on this date:

- Room A-1R: A broom and dust pan were observed accessible to children on this date.
- Room D-4R: Two plastic bags were observed on top of children's cubbies accessible to children on this date.
- Room E-3L: Two plungers and a broom and dust pan were observed in the Men's bathroom accessible to children on this date. A container of Clorox disinfecting wipes and two rolls of trash bags were observed accessible in an unsecured cabinet under the handwashing sink on this date.
- Room F-2L: A container of Clorox disinfecting wipes and three boxes of gloves were observed accessible to children on this date.

**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: 2/7/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that the ventilation/exhaust fans in the bathrooms and over the diaper changing surfaces were free of dust, as two were observed to have a layer of dust on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2023**

**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 observation, that chipping paint was observed inside the blue and red mushroom structure on the Right Playground. The picnic table on the Rear Playground had one seat with cracked wood that had a gap measuring 18 inches long and approximately 2 inches wide and had sharp edges on this date.

**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: 2/17/2023**

**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 water hoses were observed uncoiled and accessible to children on the Left Playground and the Rear Playground on this date.

**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: 2/7/2023**

**Food Service**

---

**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(7) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2023**

---

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

**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****Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(8) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure staff were washing their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means, as one staff member stated that they did not wash their hands before putting on gloves prior to diapering children.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2023**

---

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Policies and Procedures**

---

**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills as of January 12, 2023 on this date.

---

**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

**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)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Per discussion with the Director the center does not provide routine transportation at this time.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

---

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

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that cots, stored in the children's classrooms, should be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2023**

**Staff Records**

---

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

---

**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR** **Met**

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

---

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

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

---

**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.