



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: 12/2/2022 **VisitType:** POI Follow Up **Arrival:** 11:10 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

CCLC-47907

First Academy Early Learning Center

3979 Covington Highway Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
 (404) 698-3978 firstacademy@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson
 Phone: (770) 357-5090
 Fax:
 jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

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.
12/02/2022	POI Follow Up	Deficient	
08/26/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
08/25/2022	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 - End	Infants	1	4	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap,Free Play,Feeding
Main	B - Center	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	14	C	25	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Transitioning,Diapering
Main	C - Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	34	C	NA	NA	Lunch
					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 72		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			
Total # Children this Date: 28			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 72			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Back	49	C

Comments

An on-site inspection was conducted on December 2, 2022 with the Director Shemika White. Background checks were all reviewed on December 2, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 12/16/2022

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/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 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)

Shemika White, Program Official

Date

Jessica Johnson, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.03(2) - Citation corrected. Consultant reviewed infant lesson plan.

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.03(6) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed children interacting with the staff member.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the gray and brown shelf in classroom C had a broken corner.

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Correction Deadline: 12/9/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that the cabinet on the left wall was not stable.

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Correction Deadline: 12/16/2022

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Met**

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.06(1) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed the second restroom in classroom B repaired and in working order.

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

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.25(13) - Citation Corrected. Grocery bags inaccessible to children in care.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) Consultant discussed with Director taping down the black cord on the right side between the two windows.

Correction Deadline: 12/2/2022

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.25(3) - Citation corrected. Citations repaired.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Consultant discussed with Director adding the transition strip at the entrance of the door at the first restroom. Restroom currently not in use. Consultant discussed covering broken tile in the first restroom in classroom C. Restroom not in use.

Correction Deadline: 12/16/2022

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Consultant discussed with the Director the three and a half inch gap at the fence gate on the left side.

Correction Deadline: 12/2/2022

Correction Deadline: 8/13/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.26(8) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed adequate resilient surface beneath the fall zones.

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.26(9) - Citation corrected. Playground observed to be clean and free of hazards.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.15(2)(a) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed staff holding an infant during feeding.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.16(g) - Citation corrected. Consultant reviewed transportation documentation.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.11(2) - Citation corrected. Staff member no longer employed at the center.

Finding

591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or unsupervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat. It was determined based on observation that a staff person in classroom C used inappropriate discipline when they threatened to take a child's food away.

Correction Deadline: 12/2/2022

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.30(1)(b) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed children on cots.

Correction Deadline: 12/2/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.30(2) - Citation corrected.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(2) - Consultant discussed with the Director that Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant.

Correction Deadline: 12/2/2022

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.32(2) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed adequate staff:child ratios.

Correction Deadline: 8/3/2022

Corrected on 12/2/2022

.32(4)(a) - Citation corrected. Consultant observed adequate staff:child ratios.