



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: 3/17/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:15 AM **Departure:** 11:40 AM

CCLC-33283

The Academy of Jefferson, LLC

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Regional Consultant

Lynn Schnitzer

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Mailing Address

PO Box 584
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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. 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.
03/17/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/22/2021	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
10/19/2021	Monitoring Visit	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 and One Year Olds	2	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Story, Floor Play, Feeding
Main	B 2R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	20	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C 1L	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	12	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	D 2L	Two Year Olds	3	18	C	18	C	26	C	Art
Main	E Rear	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	16	C	19	C	27	C	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 82			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 78			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 82			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG L Rear	18	C
Main	PG Far Left	63	C
Main	PG- L Front	18	C
Main	PG Right	30	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on March 24, 2022. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on March 17, 2022 with the Director, Teresa Cullinan. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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)

Teresa Lovejoy, Program Official

Date

Lynn Schnitzer, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 3/17/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:15 AM **Departure:** 11:40 AM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12 - Consultant and director discussed regularly monitoring vinyl furniture for wear and tear.

Comment

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through equipment and furniture appeared to be properly secured.

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

Met

Comment

Per the provider, the center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

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

Consultant observed records to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through, bathrooms appeared to be clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Met****Comment**

Consultant and director discussed that the center's capacity is limited to 82.

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Met****Comment**

No hazards appeared accessible to children on this date.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through, the playground appeared to be clean and in good repair.

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that a gap measuring approximately three and three fourths of an inch was observed on the gate of the four-year-old playground creating a potential entrapment hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2022

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Consultant observed updated feeding plans for all enrolled infants. Per the director, feeding plans are updated monthly.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through, the kitchen appeared clean and well organized.

Consultant observed the refrigerator at 40 degrees Fahrenheit , and the freezer at zero degrees Fahrenheit .

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

Hand washing not observed during the virtual visit. Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing procedures.

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

Met

Comment

Consultant observed complete documentation for medication dispensing .

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) requires the Center to have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions and shall include assurance that no Center Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals. It was determined based on review of records that the center's emergency plan did not include the following: loss of electrical power or water, a threatening event, natural disaster, procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations, specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and child with chronic medical conditions.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will write or revise an emergency plan that includes all of the required items.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2022

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Met

Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Comment

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Staff stated knowledge of appropriate disciplinary procedures.

Comment

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. Per the director, staff are routinely trained in safe sleep requirements.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 14**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 07/22/2021

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 03/15/2013

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 11/01/2021

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 02/07/2022

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

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 02/11/2011

Staff # 6

Met

Date of Hire: 10/15/2021

Staff # 7

Met

Date of Hire: 02/11/2011

Staff # 8

Met

Date of Hire: 09/21/2021

Staff # 9

Met

Records Reviewed: 14**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Date of Hire: 12/02/2019

Staff # 10

Met

Date of Hire: 03/14/2022

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

Staff # 11

Met

Date of Hire: 02/07/2022

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

Staff # 12

Met

Date of Hire: 02/11/2011

Staff # 13

Met

Date of Hire: 09/13/2019

Staff # 14

Met

Date of Hire: 09/15/2015

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)**Met****Comment**

Director provided three files for employees hired since last visit conducted on October 19, 2021.

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

Consultant observed complete first aid kit in center.

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.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(1) - Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure that new hires receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task.

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2022**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

Director stated plans for newly hired lead staff to enroll in a course of study within six months of hire date and to obtain a credential within 18 months.

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.