



**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: 8/18/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 10:40 AM

CCLC-47907

First Academy Early Learning Center

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

Regional Consultant

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672
Fax: (866) 359-7490
kesha.mcneal@decals.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. 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.
08/18/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/15/2020	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
05/15/2020	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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 - End		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	B - Center	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	5	C	25	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C - Left	Six Year Olds and Over	1	4	C	34	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Homework
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:						72	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0	
Total # Children this Date: 9			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			72	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0	

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

Comments

A virtual inspection was conducted on August 18, 2020 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on May 12, 2020 was reviewed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/18/2020

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

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@dec.state.ga.us.

- 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://dec.state.ga.us/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)



Important New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

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

Ashley Wells, Program Official

Date

Kesha McNeal, 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: 8/18/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 10:40 AM

CCLC-47907

First Academy Early Learning Center

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

Regional Consultant

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672

Fax: (866) 359-7490

kesha.mcneal@dec.al.gov

Mailing Address

Same

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

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. This includes the hanging cords from the CD player. Please ensure that these cords are kept inaccessible to children in care at all times.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - Please ensure that the outdoor equipment is free of chipping paint 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.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2020

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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

The center's discipline policy was reviewed on this date. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **N/A**

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) Please ensure that cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them in classroom B, and C.

Correction Deadline: 8/18/2020

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 01/02/2019

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 02/21/2019

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 10/17/2018

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 08/19/2019

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 02/25/2019

Staff # 6

Met

Date of Hire: 03/18/2019

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5

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

Met

Comment

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2020

Corrected on 8/18/2020

.09(1)(a) - Previous citation observed corrected in that all current staff had a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2020

Corrected on 8/18/2020

.09(1)(c) - Previous citation observed corrected in that all current staff had valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree 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

Proper supervision of children, including being prompt to children's needs, was discussed with the director on this date.