



**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:** 1/20/2021    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 11:00 AM

**CCLC-52350**

**Little Scholars Academy**

107 Harmony Crossing, Suite 3 & 5 Eatonton, GA 31024 Putnam County  
(706) 817-8013 littlescholarsacademy1@gmail.com

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Regional Consultant**

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672  
Fax: (866) 359-7490  
kesha.mcneal@decals.ga.gov

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
01/20/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
08/13/2020	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing

**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.

**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	Rm. A- 2yrs-6yrs	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	3	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Art,Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 18						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 11			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 18			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	32	C

**Comments**

A virtual inspection was conducted on January 20, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15,2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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](mailto: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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

Anne Bared, Program Official

Date

Kesha McNeal, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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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)** **Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms** **Defer**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.06(4)-A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

**Correction Deadline: 9/12/2020**

**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.

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

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

## Health and Hygiene

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

Defer

#### Defer

591-1-1-.10(1)- A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person.

#### POI (Plan of Improvement)

The responsible person(s) at the center will ensure that the exhaust fans and duct systems are functioning or that the required amount of operable window space is provided in each diapering area. An exhaust fan will be installed over the diapering table.

**Correction Deadline: 8/24/2020**

### 591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)

Met

#### Comment

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

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

Met

#### Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

## Safety

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

Met

#### Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. 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)

Met

#### Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

## Staff Records

**Records Reviewed: 3**

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

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 08/11/2020

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 08/11/2020

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 08/11/2020

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4**

**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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15,2020.

**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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.