



**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:** 12/15/2022 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up

**Arrival:** 12:40 PM

**Departure:** 3:30 PM

**CCLC-29919**

**Ascension Learning Academy**

6265 Maddox Road Morrow, GA 30260 Clayton County  
 (404) 608-1784 dshaunsmith@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Lesley Barrett

Phone:

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lesley.barrett@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

6265 Maddox rd  
 Morrow, GA 30260

**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.
12/15/2022	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
11/21/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
11/10/2022	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	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	7	C	16	C	23	C	Nap
Main	B		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C	One Year Olds	1	2	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D Afterschool	Six Year Olds and Over	1	6	C	8	C	11	C	Homework

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 52

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 62

Total # Children this Date: 15

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 52

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 62

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Plgd-A	13	C
Main	Plgd-B	10	C

**Comments**

The investigation remains open on this date, pending additional information. Upon completion the finding will be reviewed with the provider and a final copy of the report will be sent.

The purpose of the visit was to conduct an incident investigation and to follow up on the previous visit conducted on November 10, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/15/2022

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/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](mailto: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](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)

Nikki McCall, Program Official

Date

Lesley Barrett, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

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**The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation & Follow Up:**

**Facility**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. Previous citation was not corrected on this date.

It was determined based on observation there was not adequate ventilation in the first bathroom in classroom A on this date.

**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: 12/30/2022**

**Recited on 12/15/2022**

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

**Not Met**

**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. Previous citation was not corrected on this date. It was determined based on observation that the fence on playground B did not measure up to(4) four feet in height as required. Consultant observed that the fence near the door to classroom D was bent and not in good repair.

**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: 12/15/2022**

**Recited on 12/15/2022**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure to ensure that the playground equipment is free of hazards and in good repair.

**Correction Deadline: 12/25/2022**

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on observation that there were four two-year-old children housed with three three-year-old children in classroom A during nap time.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

**Correction Deadline: 12/15/2022**