



**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:** 7/14/2022    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:45 AM    **Departure:** 11:45 AM

**CCLC-29919**

**Ascension Learning Academy**

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

**Mailing Address**

6265 Maddox rd  
 Morrow, GA 30260

**Regional Consultant**

Shannon Curtis

Phone: (770) 342-7802

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shannon.curtis@dec.al.gov

Joint with: Lesley Barrett

**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.
07/14/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/20/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
01/13/2022	Complaint Investigation & 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	Three Year Olds	1	2	C	16	C	23	C	Transitioning, Out side
Main	B	Two Year Olds	1	11	NC	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C	Infants	2	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play
Main	D Afterschool	Six Year Olds and Over	1	11	C	8	NC	11	C	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 52					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 62					
Total # Children this Date: 31			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 purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study visit and to follow up to the previous visit conducted on January 13, 2022.

Administrative Review Due: July 21, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/14/2022

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

Shannon Curtis, Consultant

Date

Lesley Barrett, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 7/14/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:45 AM

**Departure:** 11:45 AM

**CCLC-29919**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on observations that current lesson plans were not available to reflect appropriate instructions practices and activities to support children's development on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will keep current lesson plans on site that include appropriate instruction practices and activities and will have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the activities.

**Correction Deadline: 7/14/2022**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Discussed with the Director about adding equipment and toys to enhance variety in the front classroom A on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 4**

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

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Met

**Records Reviewed: 4**

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

Child # 3

Met

Child # 4

Met

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Facility**

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

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the Director to please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies on this date.

**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. It was determined based on observations there was no adequate ventilation observed 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: 8/13/2022**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observations that eleven children ranging in ages six-years-old and older were observed occupying a space that is licensed for eight children on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

**Correction Deadline: 7/14/2022**

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Consultant discussed with the Director to clean the area rug in classroom B where children are utilizing for everyday play activities etc. on this date.

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the Director to please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger, mop, water pail) out of reach of children on this date.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observations that baby wipes were observed accessible throughout the facility that reads keep out of reach of children in cubicles, a bottle of Lysol cleaner in classroom A, a container of Ozium air sanitizer spray, staff purse and medication in a child's book bag on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 7/14/2022**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure protective caps are on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach are covered properly on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 7/14/2022**

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

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that all broken toys, materials and equipment is removed from the playground area before children in care access the play area on this date.

**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 observations that the fencing is not measuring (4) four foot high as required on the back portion of the fencing on this date.

**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: 7/14/2022**

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**Food Service**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly on this date.

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers on this date.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with staff to properly clean and sanitize the diapering changing area on this date.

**Comment**

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Staff on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills as of June 24, 2022 on this date.

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices** **Met**

**Comment**

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

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**Safety**

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**591-1-1-.05 Animals** **Met**

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily for use.

**Correction Deadline: 7/14/2022**

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 9**

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

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2021

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 02/15/2017

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 10/19/2021

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 04/12/2018

**Records Reviewed: 9**

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

Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 11/29/2021	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 01/20/2010	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 10/04/2021	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 01/15/2019	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 01/20/2010	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided two files for employees hired since last visit on January 13, 2022 on this date.

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

**Comment**

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met**

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

**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) Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed proper supervision: responding promptly, bathrooms and playgrounds on this date.

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the Director to incorporate a supervision plan for the after school age children are leaving one area of the facility and walking to the next to access the restrooms on this date.