



**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:** 1/26/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 2:00 PM

**CCLC-52758**

**Early Scholars of Norcross**

1300 Indian Trail Lilburn Road, St #1 Norcross, GA 30093 Gwinnett County  
 (404) 707-0502 earlyscholarsofnorcross2019@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Leena Mitchell

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 leena.mitchell@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**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.
01/26/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/28/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
12/22/2022	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- 6wks-2 yrs	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	B - 3-4 yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C- 5-6 yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	1	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D- 7-12 yrs	Six Year Olds and Over	1	3	C	27	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E - Infant/toddler	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	F - School age		0	0	C	47	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 123			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 28			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 123			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A- 1 - 12 yrs	41	C

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study.

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.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.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.

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#### 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.

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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 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 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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wakesha jackson, Program Official

Date

Leena Mitchell, Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on review of records that four of five children's files were missing required information.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2023**

**Facility**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25 - Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

**Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

**Food Service**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**Comment**

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.18(5) - Please ensure that you add thermometer's to both the refrigerator and freezer in the kitchen and the infant classroom.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on review of records that the program did not have evidence of monthly fire drills, and emergency drills with the last six months.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 1/31/2023**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**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.

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

**Comment**

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

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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)** **Met**

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**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.

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**Staff Records**

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

**Comment**

The director provided two files for staff members hired since the previous visit conducted on December 22,, 2022. The consultant observed two of two newly hired staff members to have evidence of a satisfactory criminal record check letter on file.

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

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.14 - Please replace/add missing item(s) in first aid kit(s).

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training** **Not Met**

**Comment**

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on review of records that the following staff members did not completed health and safety orientation training within their first 90 days of employment:

Staff member #1 with a documented date of hire of October 3, 2022.

Staff member #9 with a documented date of hire of August 22, 2022.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

**Correction Deadline: 2/25/2023**

**Finding**

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #5, date of hire September 23, 2020, did not complete the required 10 hours of annual training for the year of 2022.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/25/2023**

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**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**

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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32 - Please ensure that staff members are attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arms length away from children 36-months of age and younger.

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.