



**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: 5/13/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:00 PM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-52758

Early Scholars of Norcross

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

Regional Consultant

Leena Mitchell

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Mailing Address

1300 Indian Trail Lilburn Road, St #1
Norcross, GA 30093

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
05/13/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/29/2020	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	A- 6wks-2 yrs	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B - 3-4 yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	9	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C- 5-6 yrs		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D- 7-12 yrs		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			45			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0		
								Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations		

Total # Children this Date: 16 Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 45 Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A- 1 - 12 yrs	15	C

Comments

Background checks were all reviewed on May 12, 2021. A virtual inspection was conducted on May 13, 2021 with the owner. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on May 1, 2021 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.decal.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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

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

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@decal.ga.gov.

- 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://decal.ga.gov/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)

Leanza Gibbs, Program Official

Date

Leena Mitchell, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 5/13/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:00 PM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

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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.

Comment

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

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2020

Corrected on 5/13/2021

.12(1) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed toys to be functioning properly.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Correction Deadline: 9/29/2020****Corrected on 5/13/2021****.08(1) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed evidence of five of five children's files to be complete.****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**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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.

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2020**Corrected on 5/13/2021****.26(5) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed the playground to have less than 120 square feet of hard surfaces.****Food Service**

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

591-1-1-.15(2) - Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. Discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of one (1) years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s). As soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods, the child shall be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child.

Correction Deadline: 5/13/2021**Comment**

591-1-1-.15(7) - Discussed new revision as of October 1, 2020, which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

Correction Deadline: 5/13/2021**Health and Hygiene**

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures for staff and children during virtual visit.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

The consultant discussed the updated required reporting requirements regarding suspected cases of child abuse (at the center and/or home) reported to the Department of Family and Children Services, communicable illness required to be reported to the Department of Public Health, and temporary closure of the center via DECAL KOALA.

Safety

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

The provider and/or the home's employee were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date. Provider stated proper discipline procedures during the virtual visit.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Technical Assistance****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 stated proper safe sleep policy and procedure during virtual visit.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the following rule with the Provider on this date: 591-1-1-.30(1)(d) requires that all sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged to avoid obstructing access to exit doors, to provide the caregivers access to each child, and to prevent children's access to cords hanging from window treatments and other hazardous objects. To reduce the transfer of airborne diseases, sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged as follows. There shall be a minimum of twenty-four inch (24") corridor between each row of sleeping or resting equipment. There shall be a minimum of twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment. Children shall be placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row.

Correction Deadline: 5/13/2021

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 5**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 09/23/2020	Met
Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 11/23/2020 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .09-Criminal Records Check Missing	Not Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 09/23/2020	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 09/23/2020 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing	Not Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 09/23/2020	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #2 with a documented date of hire of November 23, 2020 did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - Director submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site immediately following the virtual visit. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 5/13/2021**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1.)(b) requires the Center to ensure that every Director has 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 or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Director has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #2 with a documented date of hire of November 23, 2020 and had a satisfactory comprehensive record check determination on July 19, 2019 which was completed more than 12 months from the hire date of November 23, 2020. A one-day letter and video affidavit was given to the provider on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that the Director has 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 or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Director has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained. Center director received a National determination letter on May 13, 2021.

Correction Deadline: 5/13/2021

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

Comment

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

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

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations. 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 May 1, 2021.

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

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.

Comment

591-1-1-.32(7) - Discussed new revision as of October 1, 2020, which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

Correction Deadline: 5/13/2021