



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: 7/19/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 12:30 PM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

CCLC-47907

First Academy Early Learning Center

3979 Covington Highway Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
 (404) 698-3978 firstacademy@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson
 Phone: (770) 357-5090
 Fax:
 jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/19/2022	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Support
04/20/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/27/2021	Monitoring Visit	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 - End	Infants and One Year Olds	1	2	C	13	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Floor Play
Main	B - Center	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	25	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C - Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	19	C	34	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			72		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			
Total # Children this Date: 26			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Back	49	C

Comments

A on-site complaint/incident investigation was conducted on July 19, 2022. Investigative findings were not concluded on July 19, 2022. Investigative findings were concluded on July 22, 2022. Background checks were all reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 08/02/2022

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 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 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)

Shemika White, Program Official

Date

Jessica Johnson, Consultant

Date



**Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
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Findings Report

Date: 7/19/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 12:30 PM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

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 observation that the lesson plan was not posted on this date.

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Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

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.

Children's Records

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, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that the Center failed to upload the requested documentation by July 26, 2022, to evidence as required. The Consultant requested five children's enrollment applications.

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Correction Deadline: 8/23/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.08(1)(b) requires Center Staff to maintain a file for each child that includes parental authorizations, including, but not limited to, written authorization for the Center to obtain emergency medical care for the child when the Parent is not available. It was determined based on a review of records that the Center failed to upload the requested documentation by July 26, 2022, to evidence that the children's enrollment records included: the parent's work address, the telephone number of the child's primary source of health care, and the telephone number of person to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached as required. The Consultant requested five children's enrollment applications.

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Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

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Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.06(1) requires the center to provide a specified minimum number of flush toilets and hand washing sinks with running water for the use of all children, at least one flush toilet for children being potty-trained and to not substitute nursery potty chairs for a required flush toilet. It was determined based on observation that the second restroom on left side was not in use on this date. The toilet was not flushing properly and the cold-water faucet was turned off.

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Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

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

Met

Comment

Discussed movement of children to maintain capacities.

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

Not Met

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 observation that plastic grocery bags were in the cubbies in classroom C.

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Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed:

Classroom A

- Peeling paint on right side of the wall above the first crib.

Classroom B

- Loose floorboard on left side in block area.

Classroom C

- Damaged ceiling tiles throughout the classroom.
- Peeling paint under the alphabet sign.
- Damaged ceiling air vent.
- Hole in the ceiling panel in the bathroom on the right side.
- Ceiling vent in the second restroom had dust on top of it.
- Cracked floor tile in the second bathroom near the right wall.

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Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

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 **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.15(7) requires that food be served according to manufacturer’s instructions and recommendations. 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. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child’s age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability. It was determined based on review of records that the current menu was not uploaded for the administrative review.

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Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations Met

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Correction Deadline: 4/20/2022

Corrected on 7/19/2022

.18(9) - Citation was observed corrected. Cleaning material was stored separately from the food.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

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

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

Comment

Consultant discussed proper handwashing procedures with staff.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) N/A

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(1)(p) requires the Center to have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions and shall include assurance that no Center Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals. It was determined based on observation that there was no written emergency preparedness plan on file on this day.

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Correction Deadline: 8/26/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

Safety

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

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **N/A**

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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) **Met**

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 01/02/2019	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 02/21/2019	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 01/03/2022	
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	
Staff # 7	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 1

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on consultant's review of documentation that the Center failed to upload the Director and Cook's requested clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage by July 26, 2022, as required.

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Correction Deadline: 8/2/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that the Center failed to upload the requested documentation by July 26, 2022, to evidence of the lead caregiver minimum academic requirements. Based on review of records staff # 6 did not have the lead caregiver minimum academic requirements on this date .

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Correction Deadline: 8/2/2022

Recited on 7/19/2022

Staffing and Supervision

Correction Deadline: 4/20/2022

Corrected on 7/19/2022

.32(2) - Citation was observed corrected on this day.

Correction Deadline: 4/20/2022

Corrected on 7/19/2022

.32(7) - Citation was observed corrected on this date.