



**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: 10/6/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:40 AM **Departure:** 12:40 PM

CCLC-48667

The Atlanta Scholar Academy

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Regional Consultant

Stacy Whitten

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Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
10/06/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
01/27/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
08/06/2020	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	Room A - 1st Right	One Year Olds	1	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room B - 2nd Right	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room C - 3rd Right	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room D - 3rd Left	Four Year Olds	1	10	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room E - 2nd Left	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	13	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room F - 1st Left	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Nap, Flo or Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 104						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 51			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 104			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main Playground	68	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on October 6, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on October 6, 2021 with the Provider.

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.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 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.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

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@dec.state.ga.us.

- 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://dec.state.ga.us/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)

Martika Burke, Program Official

Date

Stacy Whitten, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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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.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

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)

Technical Assistance

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Consultant discussed with the provider to monitor the walls and doors in the classrooms for chipping paint or peeling wallpaper and repair or replace as needed.

Correction Deadline: 10/6/2021

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

Playground not observed on this date due to inclement weather and due to the visit being conducted virtually due to COVID 19.

– Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards: - Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys. Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area. Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.). Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area. Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather. Fall zones and resilient surface

Food Service

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Discussed new revision to restricted food rule 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.

Comment

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

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 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year 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: 10/6/2021

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**

Hand washing was not directly observed during the virtual visit. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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**Met****Comment**

During the virtual walk through of the program, Consultant discussed Emergency Preparedness plans and updating them on a regular basis, as well as observed posted plans.

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

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

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date. The provider and staff stated Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection are used.

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.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 9**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 09/20/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 01/04/2021

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 01/04/2018

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 10/07/2019

Staff # 5

Met

Staff # 6

Met

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 7 Met

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 01/04/2021

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 01/01/2020

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. Consultant observed evidence of all staff to have satisfactory comprehensive background check letters.

Comment

Director provided two file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(5) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure all staff have at least 10 hours of annual training each calendar year.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2021

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

Comment

Lead staff education requirements are met.

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

Discussed new revision to the supervision rule 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.

Comment

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