



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: 3/1/2017 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:25 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-16643

Kidz Fortress Childcare Learning Center

2421 Mike Padgett Highway, Suite A Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
 (706) 798-1072 kidzfortress@comcast.net

Mailing Address
 Same

Regional Consultant

Melyn Smith
 Phone: (706) 855-3455
 Fax: (706) 434-7640
 melyn.smith@dec.al.gov

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
03/01/2017	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/12/2016	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/04/2016	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

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	1L	PreK	2	21	C	20	NC	NA	NA	Centers
Main	1R	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	14	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	2 R	Infants	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap, Feeding, Flo or Play
Main	2L	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	9	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	3L		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main	3R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	15	C	16	C	23	C	Outside
Main	4L		0	0	C	9	C	12	C	
Main	4R		0	0	C	16	C	23	C	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 126

Total # Children this Date: 64

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 126

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Left	31	C
Main	Right Back	61	C
Main	Right Front Yard	41	C

Comments

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).



Reminder: All employees of child care programs must be fingerprinted before **January 1, 2017**. For instructions and to submit records check applications online, please visit www.decalkoala.com. You are encouraged not to wait and to complete the process as soon as possible.



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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)

Jessica Holmes, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 3/1/2017 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:25 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2016

Corrected on 3/1/2017

.12(2)(d) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that all equipment and furniture was observed to be secure on this date.

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

Met

Comment

No Swimming Activities Provided

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(c)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 6

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(c)-Address of Release Person Missing

Finding

591-1-1-.08(a)-(f) requires 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 that includes the following information: (a) child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; (b) names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; (c) name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone number, relationship to child and other identifying information; (d) name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; (e) name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and (f) 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 review of records, that two of six children did not have addresses for their release persons on this date.

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: 3/3/2017

Evening Care

591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

No evening care hours

Facility

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires that the Center and surrounding premises be clean, free of debris and in good repair. It was determined, based on observation that the ceiling tiles in the 1R and 1L classrooms had evidence of water damage and were drooping on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

To ensure the cleanliness, sanitation and safety of the environment, the center will replace the damaged and drooping ceiling tiles in the listed classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2017**Recited on 3/1/2017**

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Discussed-Fluff/Redistribute Surface

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 observation, that on the Right Front playground, a slat in the wooden fence was observed to be bowed with a screw exposed. It was further determined that the bottom of the front fence on the Right Front Playground was not securely anchored to the ground. It was further determined that the fence between the Right Front and Right Back playgrounds was not securely anchored to the ground. It was further determined that on the Right Back playground, a wooden slat was observed to be bowed with two nails exposed.

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: 3/15/2017

Recited on 3/1/2017

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires the playground to be kept clean, free of litter and hazards. It was determined, based on observation that the PVC piping located on the right back playground around the swings was cracked and chipped on the front left corner on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

To ensure the cleanliness, sanitation and safety of the playground, the center will repair or replace the PVC piping.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2017

Recited on 3/1/2017

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Staff Stated Proper Knowledge

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2016

Corrected on 3/1/2017

.10(3)(a) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the diaper changing surfaces were observed to be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls on this date.

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

Comment

Observed-Staff Remind Children Wash Hand

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

Comment

Observed-Complete Documentation

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals Met

Comment

No Animals Kept

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

Comment

Observed-Positive Learning Environment

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

Comment

Observed-Complete Documentation for the field trip to Skateland of Augusta on December 21, 2016.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-c) requires the Director and each Staff person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children to meet the following requirements: (a) complete two (2) clock hours of transportation training on or before June 30, 2015 and at least every two years thereafter. (b) Effective July 1, 2015, the Director and each Staff person who will be responsible for or participate in the transportation of children shall have completed two (2) clock hours of transportation training prior to assuming any duties related to the transportation of children and at least every two years thereafter. (c) Any transportation training completed should be state approved or state accepted training. It was determined, based on review of records, that the director and one driver was lacking documentation of completing transportation training every two years as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that the director, center staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2017

Correction Deadline: 8/13/2016

Corrected on 3/1/2017

.36(4)(b) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the interior of the vehicles used for routine transportation were observed to be clean, in safe repair and free of hazards on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2016

Corrected on 3/1/2017

.36(4)(f)1. - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that all child passenger restraining systems and safety belts were operable on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/12/2016

Corrected on 3/1/2017

.36(7)(c)2. - Previous citation corrected, based on a review of records, in that the driver or other designated staff person documented in writing the loading and unloading of children on the passenger transportation checklist on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Comment

Observed-Pleasant Naptime Environment

Correction Deadline: 8/13/2016

Corrected on 3/1/2017

.30(1)(a)3 - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that crib sheets are changed daily or more often as needed as stated by staff on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined, based on observation, that mats were stored with the bedding touching other mats and bedding in the 1R classroom on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure mats are stored with the bedding not touching other mats and bedding.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2017

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/19/2016

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.36(3)(a-c)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing

Staff # 11 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/14/2012

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.36(3)(a-c)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing

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

Comment

Criminal Records Check complete

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

Comment

Observed-100% Certified First Aid & CPR

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) Not Met

Comment

Observed-Appropriate Staff:Child Ratios

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children except during early morning arrival and late afternoon departure times. Children under three years old were combined with older children at a time other than arrival/departure. It was determined, based on observation, that two three-year-old children were housed in the 1R classroom with one-year-old and two-year-old children on this date at a time other than arrival/departure.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2017

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) Met

Comment

Observed-Direct Supervision/Attentive Staff