



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
3 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 1/8/2026 VisitType: Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study Arrival: 9:50 AM Departure: 4:00 PM

CCLC-62519

Kreative Kids Academy

6007 Covington Highway Decatur, GA 30035 DeKalb County
(770) 323-7599

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★

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. 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.
01/08/2026	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/08/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
12/03/2025	Initial-TA	NA	

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	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Nap
Main	B		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Main	C	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	E	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	7	C	17	C	24	C	Free Play,Art
Main	F	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	17	C	24	C	Centers
Main	G-PreK	GA PreK	2	17	C	26	C	36	C	Centers
Main	H		0	0	C	16	C	22	C	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 126			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 156							
Total # Children this Date: 47			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 126 Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 156							

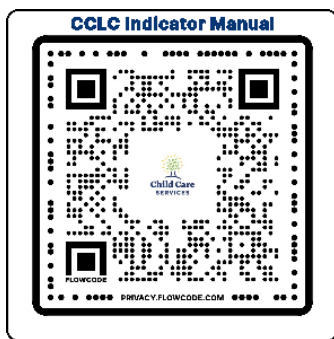
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	OUTSIDE	126	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	5	17	10	19	0	29

Comments

On this date, Jessica Johnson (JJ), Consultant, reviewed the visit report with Director Tabitha Staten. The investigation was closed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at <https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.

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/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.

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)

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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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

Summary Report

Date: 1/8/2026 VisitType: Complaint Investigation & Licensing Arrival: 9:50 AM Departure: 4:00 PM
Study

CCLC-62519

Kreative Kids Academy

6007 Covington Highway Decatur, GA 30035 DeKalb County
(770) 323-7599

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(1) - Please ensure that the Center provides daily planned program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities to promote social, emotional, physical, cognitive, language and literacy growth in classroom C.

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please repair the broke handle on the diapering table in classroom C. Please removed the torn red couch in classroom H and the green couch that has a hole in classroom F.

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

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 on this date.

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(11) - Please ensure that that the rug in classroom G in the block area is tight, smooth, and free of potential tripping hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/7/2026**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 the following hazards were observed:

Classroom E

- Diaper wipes were observed stored in the cubby accessible to children in care.
- A & D ointment was observed in the cubby accessible to children in care.
- Deodorant was observed in an unlocked drawer near the sink.
- Gloves were observed on the top of the cabinet near the sink.
- Olive oil conditioner was observed in an unlocked wooden cabinet across from the sink.
- Adult scissors and a stapler were observed on top of the science shelf accessible to children in care.

Classroom F

- Selsun Blue shampoo was observed in the cubby accessible to children in care.

Classroom G

- Diaper wipes and gloves were observed in a cart near the restroom accessible to children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026**Recited on 1/8/2026****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 C

- A missing piece of the wall was observed near the window in dramatic area.

Classroom E

- Chipping paint was observed on the wall in the dramatic and block area.

Classroom F

- Chipping paint was observed on the wall in the circle time areas.

Restroom between classroom E and F

- Rust was observed on the panel inside the second stall.

Classroom G

- Staples were observed throughout the purple wall.

Hallway

- Rust was observed on the water fountain near the kitchen.

Classroom H

- Rust was observed on the vent near the entrance door on the left side.
- Chipping paint was observed on the left side wall of the classroom behind the mailbox.
- Staples were observed in the wall behind the book shelf.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026**Recited on 1/8/2026**

Correction Deadline: 10/7/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.26(4) - The previous citation was corrected as no hazards were observed on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Discussed replacing the torn fence covering on the right side of the fence near the toddler playground.

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed:

Toddler Playground.

- Rust and chipping paint were observed on the blue seesaw steering wheels, blue helicopter, and green car.
- Chipped paint was observed on the yellow car.

School age Playground

- Rust and chipping paint were observed on the red/blue bus had chipping paint and rust on this date.
- Rust was observed on the s hooka and seat of all the swings.
- Splintering wood was observed on both ramps.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Recited on 1/8/2026

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.26(8) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as adequate resilient surface was observed under the fall zones.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please ensure that sticks are removed from the playground area.

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that there was a four inch gap between the wooden railing on the ramp near the toddler playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Recited on 1/8/2026

Food Service

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(3) - Discussed adding a thermometer to the refrigerator in classroom A. Discussed that bottles and milk must be refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less.

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.18(5) - Please ensure monitoring the refrigerator in the kitchen area. The refrigeration of all perishable and potentially hazardous foods must be stored at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below.

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.10(3) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as The Consultant observed the proper diapering procedure.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.10(4) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as The Consultant observed the diapering station.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.17(7) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as children were observed to wash their hands.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.17(8) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as Staff were observed to wash their hands.

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(q) - Please ensure that safe sleep practices acknowledgement form are completed in each infant file.

Correction Deadline: 1/13/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(3) - Please ensure that fire drills times are shortened and quick.

Correction Deadline: 1/13/2026

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)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Defer

591-1-1-.36(4)(a)-Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit. Per the Director, vehicle tag # SFK6649 was not currently in use.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2025

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.36(4)(b) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as the vehicle seats were observed repaired.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) - Please ensure that no lines are left blank on the vehicle emergency forms.

Correction Deadline: 1/9/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.30(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as no hazards were observed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) - Please ensure to cover cots are stored in the children's activity area to prevent children's access to them.

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 13****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/09/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as criminal records checks were observed completed.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.09(1)(j) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as criminal records checks were observed completed.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.09(1)(l)3. - The previous citation was corrected on this date as criminal records checks were observed completed.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Met

Comment

At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles on this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/7/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.14(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as certified staff were observed.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.33(3)(a)-(k) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as the Consultant observed all health and safety orientation training complete.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(4) - Please ensure that 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.

Correction Deadline: 2/7/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) 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 offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 8 hired on December 9, 2024, did not complete the 10 clock hours of diverse training as required for the 2025 calendar year.

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: 12/31/2026

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed. on this date.

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

Not 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.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.31(13) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as the updated registration was observed.

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 Staff # 8 hired on December 2, 2024 and Staff # 10 hired on July 11, 2024, did not have the lead teacher credentials on file on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Recited on 1/8/2026

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.