



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: 9/21/2023 VisitType: Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit Arrival: 12:15 PM Departure: 5:00 PM

CCLC-48875

Kidz choice Academy

2675 Stone Drive Lilburn, GA 30047 Gwinnett County
(770) 676-0668 kidzchoiceacademy@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Leena Mitchell

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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.
09/21/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/18/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
05/18/2023	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	

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 - Far Left	Infants	2	4	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B - 2L middle	One Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C - Center Left		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D- Center Right	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	25	C	35	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E- 1L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	15	NC	28	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	F- Front Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 69					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Front Left	14	C
Main	B - 1L Toddler	17	C
Main	C - Rear Centet	112	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/21/2023

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.al.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

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!

Tawuana Morton-Taylor, Program Official

Date

Leena Mitchell, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

Date: 9/21/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 12:15 PM **Departure:** 5:00 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.

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)

Not Met

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health	Met
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Correction Deadline: 5/18/2023

Corrected on 9/21/2023

.07(5) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed no children with pacifiers attached to their clothing on this date.

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)	Met
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Correction Deadline: 5/18/2023

Corrected on 9/21/2023

.10(9) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed the diapering area to be free of food on this date.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.05(2) - 591-1-1-.05(2) - Please ensure the guinea pig in classroom F is provided food and water daily. Also, clean the cage as needed.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023

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

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Not Met
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Comment

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #4 did not have evidence of a current transportation training certificate on file prior to participating in transportation on September 21, 2023.

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: 10/1/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(c) requires that each vehicle be equipped with a fire extinguisher maintained in working order and kept inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that vehicle tag #SBX 6411 was not equipped with a fire extinguisher on this date and was used to transport children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each vehicle has a working fire extinguisher and that the fire extinguisher is kept out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(e) requires vehicle seats to be securely fastened to the body of the vehicle. It was determined based on observation that the second and third row of seats on vehicle tag# SBX 6411 was not securely fastened to the body of the vehicle. The van was used to transport children on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that vehicle seats are securely fastened to the body of the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2023

Correction Deadline: 5/18/2023

Corrected on 9/21/2023

.36(8) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed documentation that the children's travel time is less than forty-five minutes the week of September 18, 2023.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30 - Consultant discussed with staff that cots should be at least 12 inches apart and children should sleep in a head to toe position.

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)3 requires that sheets or similar coverings for cots or mats shall either be marked for individual use or laundered daily. If marked for individual use, they must be laundered weekly or more frequently if needed. It was determined based on observation that children in classrooms B and F were sleeping directly on cots without a bottom sheet as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that sheets are marked for individual use or washed daily and that marked sheets are washed at least weekly.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023

Staff Records

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/13/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing,.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/07/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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 a review of staff records that staff member #5 was hired on July 13, 2023, and did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will 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 as 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.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee 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 Employee 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 #5 was hired on July 13, 2023 and had a satisfactory comprehensive record check determination on September 8, 2022 which was completed more than 12 months from the hire date of July 13, 2023. Further review of records revealed that staff member #5 did not submit both a current records check application to the department and fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. Staff member #4 was observed working with children present. A one-day letter was left with the provider on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every Employee 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 Employee 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.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #2, hired on June 1, 2023, and staff member #11 hired on August 7, 2023, had a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that was within the 12 month portability period, but had not been electronically ported as required. Staff member #2 was observed working alone in classroom F and staff member #11 was observed in classroom E on this date. Consultant assisted provider in porting the staff members before ending the visit. A one-day letter and video training affiliated was left on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. 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 CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Not Met****Comment**

Please be mindful of transportation training expiration dates.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined based on observation that vehicle tag #SBX 6411 was not equipped with a first aid kit on this date and was used to transport children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center Staff will provide any missing first aid kits, add any missing items to each first aid kit and will develop and use a plan for checking the kits and replacing missing items in each kit in the future. First aid kits and instruction manuals will be stored so that they kits are not accessible to children but are easily accessible to Center Staff.

Correction Deadline: 10/1/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Correction Deadline: 5/18/2023****Corrected on 9/21/2023**

.33(3) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed newly hired staff to have completed health and safety training within 90 days of hire.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that classroom E first left had one staff member and fifteen children (1:15) ranging in age from two to three-years-old which is more than twenty percent of the youngest age of the group of children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on observation that at 12:30 p.m. classroom B 2L had eleven one-year-old children mixed with one four-year-old child. The four-year-old child was the staff members child who returned from lunch with their child.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

A supervision plan was created on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. 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. It was determined based on observation that:

- Staff member on playground C did not provide watchful oversight, staff member was observed outside standing at the door when a child came inside to use the restroom.
- Staff member in classroom D left a child alone in the restroom and left the classroom.
- Staff member in classroom E was not sitting within arms reach of the two-year-old children during snack.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Facility	

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

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 gnats were observed flying around near the sinks in classrooms A, B, C, E and F.

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: 9/21/2023