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: 3/14/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 12:45 PM **Departure:** 3:20 PM

CCLC-56835
Kids Academy & Early Learning Center

637 Boulevard, NE Atlanta, GA 30308 Fulton County
(404) 872-0848 kidsacademy0848@gmail.com

CCS Coordinator
Sondra Paster
Phone: (478) 314-5803
Fax: (478) 314-5811
sondra.paster@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Yolanda Marable

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/14/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
02/23/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
02/17/2023	Complaint Closure	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	Rm. A 1R		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Rm. B 1L		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Rm. C 2L	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	26	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm. D 3L	One Year Olds	1	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm. E 4L	Three Year Olds	2	10	C	25	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm. F 5L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 130			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 31		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 130			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @25 capacity limited by Playground Limitations		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Infants/Toddlers	7	C
Main	B- 2 - 12yrs	36	C

Comments
The purpose of the visit is to conduct a Licensing Study visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/14/2024

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.decal.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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free techincal assistance is available!

Raquel Bryant, Program Official	Date	Sondra Paster, CCS Coordinator	Date
Yolanda Marable, Regional Consultant	Date		

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

(Findings Report)

Date: 3/14/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 12:45 PM **Departure:** 3:20 PM

CCLC-56835
Kids Academy & Early Learning Center

637 Boulevard, NE Atlanta, GA 30308 Fulton County
(404) 872-0848 kidsacademy0848@gmail.com

CCS Coordinator
Sondra Paster
Phone: (478) 314-5803
Fax: (478) 314-5811
sondra.paster@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Yolanda Marable

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.03(7)(a) requires a center that operates five hours or more per day to provide at least one and one-half hours of outdoor activity per day, weather permitting, for each child who is not an infant and at least one hour daily for infants. It was determined based on observation that the center has not provided outdoor play time since September 2023 due to the center having two outdoor play areas that are not in working order.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The center will develop and follow a schedule that provides the required amount of outdoor activity for all children, including infants.

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.03(7)(b) requires a center Centers operating less than five hours per day to provide a brief period of outdoor time, weather permitting, for children daily. It was determined based on observation that the center has not provided outdoor play time since September 2023 due to the center having two outdoor play areas that are not in working order.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will follow a schedule that provides some outdoor time each day for the children.

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2024

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2023

Corrected on 3/14/2024
Previous citation corrected on this date.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Comment
A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Technical Assistance
The consultant discussed with the director to please ensure that all bottle warmers are secured and inaccessible to children in the infant classroom.

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2024

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

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Child # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Special Care Procedures,.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 2 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Special Care Procedures

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Not Met**

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, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child’s participation in the program. It was determined by review of records child #1 was missing allergy information on the enrollment application.

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: 3/14/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.08(1)(a) requires Center Staff to maintain a file for each child that includes a description of any special procedures to be followed in caring for the child, including any special services which the Center agrees to provide to a Child with Special Needs. It was determined by review of records child #1 and 2 were missing special needs information on the enrollment application.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center staff will develop a written plan with the parent or guardian for a child who requires special procedures to be followed and maintain the plan in the child's file.

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2024

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**

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 by consultant observation in the second left classroom the fire exhauster was accessible on top of the cubby. It was further determined that in the third left classroom the fire exhauster was on the floor accessible to children.

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: 3/14/2024

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

Technical Assistance
The consultant discussed with the director that the center has been without any playgrounds since September 2023. The center will have until April 12, 2024 to complete all repairs to the outdoor spaces.

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 playgrounds A and B were observed to not be completely enclosed on this date.

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: 3/14/2024

Food Service

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

Comment
Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Met**

Comment
The center uses a portable hot and air fryer to prepare meals. According to the fire inspection, the center can only boil items on the hot plate and use the air fryer for other items to prepare meals. The center is not allowed to fry any foods.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.10(3) requires Center Staff to change diapers in the child's own crib or on a diaper changing surface that is used for no purposes other than changing diapers and other clothing in each room where infants or any other children wearing diapers are served. It was determined by consultant observation in the second left classroom that the diaper changing pad was ripped exposing cushion.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure Staff are trained regarding specifically where to change diapers and clothing in each room housing children who are wearing diapers.

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2024

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

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License **Not Met**

Technical Assistance
The consultant discussed with the director that the walls in classroom C and D will be removed from dividing the spaces or the center will add a diapering changing space, exhaust fan and sink in each classroom. The center has until April 12, 2024 to complete the option of their choosing.

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.16(f) requires the Center to submit an application for an amended License at least 30 days prior to a change if there is a change in the name of the program or Center, changes in the ages of the children to be served, an increase in the regular hours of operation such that the Center would be providing evening or night-time care in addition to day-time care, changes in the services provided, or additions to or changes in the use of the building by the licensed Center. If an emergency situation arises which makes it impossible to give thirty (30) days' notice, the management of the Center shall notify the Department by telephone and shall submit an application for an amended License as soon as management becomes aware of the change that will be necessitated by the emergency situation. In no case, however, shall a new owner operate the Center without first securing a new License or Permit from the Department. It was determined based on observation that the center failed to submit an amendment for classrooms C and D when nine foot walls were added to divide the classrooms spaces.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
An application for amendment and all necessary documentation will be submitted by April 14, 2024.

Correction Deadline: 4/12/2024

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) — Not Met

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on observation that the center's van was observed to be without a current vehicle inspection.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the date and time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on observation that arrival an departure times were observed to be missing for transportation provided January 22, 2024 through January 26, 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that each date and time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined by review of transportation form the week of February 12, 2024, through February 15, 2024, did not have PM second check for Hope Hill Elementary.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2023

Corrected on 3/14/2024
Previous citation corrected on this date.

Staff Records

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

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

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.33(2) requires the initial Center orientation to include the following subjects: the Center's policies and procedures; the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; the Staff person's assigned duties and responsibilities; reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; communicable diseases and serious injuries; emergency weather plans; the program's emergency preparedness plan; childhood injury control; the administration of medicine; reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); hand washing; fire safety; water safety; and prevention of HIV/AIDS and blood borne pathogens. It was determined by review of documents staff #4 hired on February 7, 2024 did not have evidence of completed orientation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide orientation in all missing subjects to the employee(s) and will take steps to provide a complete orientation to new Employees in the future.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2024

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) **Met**

Comment
Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Comment
Adequate supervision observed on this date.