



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: 11/19/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:45 AM **Departure:** 3:15 PM

CCLC-65882

KMAD Academy LLC

190 East Cherry Street Cochran, GA 31014 Bleckley County
(229) 212-0645

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455

Fax: (706) 434-7640

melyn.smith@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Stacy Igarashi

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.
11/19/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/20/2025	Initial Licensing Study	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	1L-Three and Above	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	6	C	13	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Nap,Transitioning,Outside
Main	2R-Infant	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Outside,Nap,Transitioning,Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 26			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 11			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 26 Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main Playground	41	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	3	2	6	4	0	5

Comments

The Consultant provided where to access resources including the Indicator Manual. The Consultant further discussed how to use the Indicator Manual.

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.al.ga.gov/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.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!



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: 11/19/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:45 AM **Departure:** 3:15 PM

CCLC-65882

KMAD Academy LLC

190 East Cherry Street Cochran, GA 31014 Bleckley County
(229) 212-0645

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455

Fax: (706) 434-7640

melyn.smith@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Stacy Igarashi

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(13) - The Consultant discussed with the Assistant Director to ensure the daily schedule for each group is flexible but routinely followed to provide structure. The daily schedule was observed to not be followed on this date, as children were observed to be outside upon Consultant's arrival and remained outside until lunch, when the posted daily schedule indicated that Music and Movement and Center Time were scheduled before outside play.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - The Consultant discussed with the Assistant Director to ensure that current lesson plans are on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development. The lesson plans should have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. On this date, no lesson plans were available for review.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that the following equipment and furniture were observed unsecured on this date and could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled over:

- 1L-Three and Above Classroom - The television located on top of a low black shelf containing children's cubbies was not secured. The white shelf on the back wall was unstable and not secured. Five chairs were stacked on a white table in the back of the room and were not secured.

- 2R-Infant Classroom - The black shelf on the back left side of the classroom was unstable and not secured. The two white shelves stacked serving as the children's cubbies were not secured. A portable heater was observed unsecured and in use on the top of the stacked white shelves.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 11/26/2025

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers,.08(3)-Name of Release Person Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

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 based on a review of records that five of five children's files reviewed were missing the phone numbers for the parents' employers. It was further determined that four of five children's files reviewed were missing the phone number for the child's primary physician. Additionally, one of five children's files reviewed was missing the information for the child's authorized release person(s).

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: 11/26/2025

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based on observation that the carpets in both 1L-Three and Above and 2R-Infant Classrooms were frayed and had sections missing to the subfloor which prevented the carpet from being smooth and washable or cleanable on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.25(12) requires heating and cooling equipment to be protected to prevent children from touching it. Fans, space heaters, etc. shall be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that a window air conditioning unit was accessible to children in the 1L-Three and Above Classroom on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will re-position or re-install equipment, as needed, and will make all such equipment inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

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 a staff bag containing lotion, hand sanitizer, and cans of Coca-Cola was accessible to children in 2R-Infant Classroom on this date.

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: 11/19/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation in 1L-Three and Above Classroom that three of six electrical outlets and a power strip with six unused outlets within children's reach did not have protective caps on this date. It was further determined that electrical cords to the window air conditioning unit, the power strip, and a phone charger plugged into a phone were accessible to children. Additionally, one electrical outlet in 2R-Infant Classroom was observed not covered on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 Main Playground near the entrance to the playground the first and second panel of fencing from the back right corner was detached from the ground and could easily be pushed up. It was further determined that the fencing facing the road and driveway, the front double gate measured 44 inches in height and the front single gate measured 46 inches in height when 48 inches in height was required.

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: 11/28/2025

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 a water hose was observed stretched from the building through the fence to the front of the center posing as a tripping hazard to children present and running on the playground on this date.

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: 11/19/2025

Recited on 11/19/2025

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(7) - The Consultant discussed with the Assistant Director choking prevention and that 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 should 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. Food should not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that staff did not wash their hands after cleaning five children's faces as the children were washing their hands after toileting during a scheduled bathroom break on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Finding

591-1-1-.20(4) requires the Center to keep medication in a cabinet or container that is locked or otherwise not accessible to the children and to be stored separate from cleaning chemicals, supplies or poisons. Medications requiring refrigeration shall be placed in a leak-proof container in a refrigerator that is not accessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that prescription medication was observed stored in a staff bag accessible to children in the 2R-Infant Classroom on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on the safe and proper storage of medication and monitor to ensure that the rule is met.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

Policies and Procedures

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

Met

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

N/A

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/02/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-No Record,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/06/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/04/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.24(1)-No Record

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.24(1)-No Record

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on a review of records that the following Staff did not have certification in pediatric First Aid and CPR within 45 days of employment as required:

- Staff #1 hired May 2, 2025
- Staff #2 hired October 6, 2025
- Staff #4 hired April 4, 2025
- Staff #6 hired July 15, 2025

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2025**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on observation that Staff #2 assigned to the 2R-Infant Classroom and the only staff present with children during outside play and during transition time before lunch was missing a current and valid certification in pediatric First Aid and CPR as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.14(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Assistant Director to add a triangular bandage, or sling, to the center's first aid kit(s).

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2025

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation; It was determined based on a review of records that the Center was missing personnel records for Staff #s 1, 4, and 6 identified as current staff on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will secure required information for all Personnel. The Center will ensure that complete information is in the personnel file for all Directors, Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance and other Support Staff.

Correction Deadline: 11/24/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics:

a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 4 hired April 4, 2025, and Staff # 6 hired July 15, 2025, did not have evidence for completing the Health and Safety Orientation Training within 90 days of employment as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2025

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

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**

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

Corrected on 11/19/2025

.32(2) - The previous citation was corrected on this date.

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 two 1-year-old children, two 2-year-old children, five 3-year-old children, and one 4-year-old child were observed housed together during outdoor play and during the transition time to lunch when it was required for the children under 3-years-old to be housed separate from older children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.