



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: 8/27/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:40 AM **Departure:** 2:10 PM

CCLC-469
K.C.'s 24 Hr. Child Care Center
5119 Highway 278, NE Covington, GA 30014 Newton County
(770) 787-9000

Regional Consultant
Cassandra Jakes-Beasley
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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.
08/27/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/20/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
05/09/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	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		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	2L	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	9	C	21	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Floor Play, Nap
Main	2R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	16	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside
Main	3L	Two Year Olds	2	9	C	21	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Left Corner Cafe		0	0	C	54	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Left Hall 1st Rt		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Right Hall 1st RT		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 171			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 34			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 171			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	30	C
Main	Playground	90	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
1	1	13	11	4	0	68

Comments

Background checks were reviewed. The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the report was email to the Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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!



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Summary Report

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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 on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Swimming activities provided off site.

Evening Care

591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.32(6) -

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/20/2025

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.06(7) - Based on observation the outdoor bathroom did not have urine on the toilet seat.

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

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 chipping and peeling paint were observed on the bottom of the wall near the toilet on the center's preschool playground bathroom. It was further determined that in the 2-year-old classroom the edging of the counter top was cracked with a jagged edge at the handwashing sink of the diaper changing table and the counter top at the children's hand washing sink was broken on the edge.

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: 9/5/2025

Recited on 8/27/2025

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute wood chips in the fall zone of the large climbing structures on the large playground.

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 equipment hazards were observed:

Small Playground:

- There was chipping paint on the green tunnel, the red air force helicopter, and the yellow metal car.

Large Playground:

- There was rust on two swing chains.
- There was chipping paint on the body of the yellow metal car.

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: 9/6/2025

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 the following was observed:

Small Playground

- There was a thorny vine growing on the left side of the playground.
- A black rubber mat, near the left fence, was cracked and raised in the middle, creating a possible tripping hazard.
- There were loose fence wires, bent outward at the top of the fence separating the small and large playgrounds.
- There was a large ear worm web hanging from a tree limb that was accessible to children, near the red metal structure.

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: 8/27/2025

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)**Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/9/2025

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.17(2) - Based on observation all children were kept clean dry and comfortable, no visible bodily fluids and food was observed on children faces at nap time.

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(4) - Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.

Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at:

<https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2025

Safety

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

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

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

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Comment

Please ensure that the floors are clean on all vehicles and the flooring material on bus# 3 is secure in the front, to prevent tripping hazards.

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 review the center did not have current annual safety checks for five of five vehicles used for transportation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2025

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 bus # 4 was not equipped with a fire extinguisher.

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: 8/27/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. - The consultant discussed with the director that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 16**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 8

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 16

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided [16] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) : Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2025**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(2)(a)-(n) - Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. - New - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2025**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I)-(VIII) requires the Center develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii). It was determined based on a review of staff credentials the center did not develop a written plan for two staff members that did not possess the educational requirements for lead teachers.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's and ensure that the teacher's follow the plan.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/9/2025

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.32(7) - Previous correction observed in that staff members were seated within an arm's length away from the one and two-year-old children during lunch time on the day of the visit.