



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: 9/12/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:35 AM **Departure:** 2:20 PM

CCLC-30865

Kuddles & Huggs Learning Academy

4114 Aslan Road Valdosta, GA 31605 Lowndes County
 (229) 671-4949 kuddleshuggs@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Lindsey Ray

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Fax:

lindsey.ray@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.
09/12/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/06/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
06/05/2023	Incident 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
Bld 2	Bld 2-rm E		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 17					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 115					
Bld 3	Rm F (middle bld)		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 115					
Main	Bld 1-Rm A-4's	Four Year Olds	2	19	C	22	C	31	C	Transitioning, Free Play
Main	Bld 1-Rm B-3-4's	Three Year Olds	3	20	C	12	NC	17	NC	Transitioning
Main	Bld 1-Rm C-infant	Infants	2	5	C	5	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play, Feeding
Main	Bld 1-Rm D-1-2's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	4	20	C	20	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Outside ,Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 59					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 115					
Total # Children this Date: 64			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 101			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 115				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bld 3	One Year Old Playground	4	C
Main	Playground 1	37	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a licensing study.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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!

LaToya Smith, Program Official

Date

Lindsey Ray, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

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

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Evening Care

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

No evening care hours provided at this time.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Discussed 25 square feet rule.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25 - The consultant and the director discussed storage of hazardous items and materials.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards The consultant and the director discussed sweeping the playground for trash and debris before the children go out.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.17(7) - requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon re-entering the child care area after outside play. The consultant and the director discussed handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2023

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2023

Corrected on 9/12/2023

.11(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

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)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36 - The consultant and the director discussed replenishing first aid kits.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records**Met****Correction Deadline: 6/5/2023****Corrected on 9/12/2023****.24(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date.**

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.

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****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.