



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: 6/5/2023 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 2:30 PM **Departure:** 5:15 PM

CCLC-30865

Kuddles & Huggs Learning Academy

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

Region Consultant

Rena Keene

Phone: (912) 544-9930
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 rena.keene@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
06/05/2023	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
03/14/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/31/2022	Complaint Closure	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	Infants	3	15	NC	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Snack
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 17			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 115							
Bld 3	Rm F (middle bld)	Three Year Olds	2	15	C	25	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Free Play,Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 115							
Main	Bld 1-Rm A-4's	Six Year Olds and Over	2	21	C	22	C	31	C	Free Play,Centers
Main	Bld 1-Rm B-3-4's	Six Year Olds and Over	2	14	C	12	NC	17	C	Free Play,Diapering
Main	Bld 1-Rm C-infant	Infants	1	5	C	5	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Bld 1-Rm D-1-2's	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Diapering
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 59			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 115							
Total # Children this Date: 81			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

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to investigate a required self-reported incident and to follow up on previously cited rule violations.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/05/2023

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.decga.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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

LaToya Smith, Program Official

Date

Rena Keene, Region Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation & Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Two regulatory visits have previously been made for this fiscal year. Reviewed previous citations only.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Evening Care

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

Met

Comment

No evening care hours provided at this time due to lack of enrollment for hours after 6:00 PM.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Discussed 25 square feet rule.

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

Met

Comment

Two regulatory visits have previously been made for this fiscal year. Reviewed previous citations only.

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

Met

Comment

Two regulatory visits have previously been made for this fiscal year. Reviewed previous citations only.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Two regulatory visits have previously been made for this fiscal year. Reviewed previous citations only.

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

Met

Comment

Two regulatory visits have previously been made for this fiscal year. Reviewed previous citations only.

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

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Refer to Incident Investigation findings.

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

Met

Comment

Two regulatory visits have previously been made for this fiscal year. Reviewed previous citations only.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Two regulatory visits have previously been made for this fiscal year. Reviewed previous citations only.

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

Comment

591-1-1-.24(1) - Refer to Incident Investigation form.

Correction Deadline: 6/7/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

Corrected on 6/5/2023

.33(5) - It was determined based on a review of staff files, that three of three long term employees still employed received the required annual training for the 2022 calendar year.

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Technical Assistance**

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. Please be sure that older children are not allowed as "helpers" for children younger than three years of age.

Compliance was not evaluated as two regulatory visits have previously been made during this fiscal year.

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2023