



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: 7/3/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:05 AM **Departure:** 6:00 PM

CCLC-48875

Kidz choice Academy

2675 Stone Drive Lilburn, GA 30047 Gwinnett County
(770) 676-0668 Kidzchoiceacademy@gmail.com

Lead Consultant

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Joint with: Lynn Schnitzer

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.
07/03/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
07/03/2024	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Support	
06/05/2024	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	A - Far Left	One Year Olds	1	4	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap,Diapering
Main	B - 2L middle	One Year Olds	1	8	C	19	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C - Center Left	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	7	C	22	C	NA	NA	TV
Main	D- Center Right	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	20	C	35	C	NA	NA	TV
Main	E- 1L	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	28	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	F- Front Right	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Art

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 56

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Front Left	14	C
Main	B - 1L Toddler	17	C
Main	C - Rear Centet	112	C

Comments

This is a complaint investigation and follow up visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/03/2024

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.dec.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.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the following equipment must be repaired:

- Classroom B-2L Middle - A cow shape board contained a protruding screw.
- Classroom F-Front Right - A red sofa and a blue sofa were observed to be torn with exposed foam in the reading center located on the back-right side. Two plastic containers containing toys were cracked creating a potential pinching hazard located on the back-left side of the home living area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 7/5/2024

Recited on 7/3/2024

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 television was not secured to a blue bookshelf located on the back-left side of classroom F-Front Right. The television was observed to be a potential tipping hazard.

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. The center will also ensure to secure the television to the wall or bookshelf to ensure that the television doesn't become a potential tipping hazard.

Correction Deadline: 7/5/2024

Recited on 7/3/2024

Children's Records

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2024

Corrected on 7/3/2024

.08(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the information was completed for the children. Please ensure that all information on the enrollment application is completed for all the children at all times.

Facility

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****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 five to nine and a half inch gap was observed on the fence surrounding the air conditioning unit located on the front-left entrance of playground C-Rear Center creating a potential entrapment hazard. The gate of the entry fence surrounding the air conditioning unit was observed to be detached and leaning on the unit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will re-position or re-install equipment, as needed, and will make all such equipment inaccessible to children. The center will repair the entry fence to prevent the children from accessing the air conditioning unit.

Correction Deadline: 7/5/2024

Recited on 7/3/2024

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2024

Corrected on 7/3/2024

.25(13) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the items were not observed to be accessible and were removed. Please ensure that all hazards are kept inaccessible to the children at all times.

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 the following items were in need of repair:

- Classroom E-1L - All three children's toilets were observed to contain protruding screws on the side.

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. The center will also cover and/or shave down the protruding screws to prevent the children from accessing the screws.

Correction Deadline: 7/5/2024

Recited on 7/3/2024

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

Correction Deadline: 6/15/2024

Corrected on 7/3/2024

.26(6) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the items were not observed on the playground and the chipping paint was repaired. Please ensure that equipment is in good repair at all times.

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the following playground equipment did not have the required amount of resilient surface:

- Playground C-Rear Center - The fall zone surrounding the slide attached to the red, green, blue, and yellow curved slide structure contained approximately two inches of resilient surface. Three inches of resilient surface was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 7/5/2024

Recited on 7/3/2024

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 hazards were observed on the playground area:

- Playground B-1L Toddler - A white tarp was observed to be covering equipment to the left of the playground. Also, there was exposed screws in two areas at the border of the pavilion. A shovel and pitch fork were observed on the playground.

- Playground C-Rear Center - An unwrapped hose and a broken table were observed to be sitting on the front-left side of the playground. Equipment and furniture wrapped in plastic and in boxes and silver poles were sitting on the back-left side of the playground accessible to the children. Exposed tree roots were observed throughout the grounds of the playground. The PVC piping surrounding the sliding structure was separated. The exposed tree roots and the separated PVC created a potential tripping hazard. Broken tree branches were observed on the ground and hanging over the fence located on the back-left side of the playground. Further, there was a deflated splash and slide accessible on the playground.

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. The center will remove the broken tree branches to ensure the children do not trip over them and they do not damage the playground fence. The center will also paint the exposed tree roots with a bright color and remove the equipment and furniture wrapped in plastic and in boxes to prevent the children from accessing the packaging.

Correction Deadline: 7/5/2024

Recited on 7/3/2024

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Not Met****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 Albuterol and an inhaler were observed in a child's backpack in the cubby area and was accessible.

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. The center will ensure to check the children's backpacks for medications and store all medications in a locked cabinet and/or container inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 7/3/2024

Recited on 7/3/2024

Safety

Finding

591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or unsupervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat. It was determined based on observation that a one-year-old child was observed in a highchair and it was not mealtime. When the consultant inquired staff stated child was placed there because they were biting and had been there for ten minutes.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take immediate action to ensure the action/conduct has ceased; train/review appropriate child guidance techniques with center staff; and have a system in place to monitor and identify inappropriate actions.

Correction Deadline: 7/3/2024

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 6/10/2024

Corrected on 7/3/2024

.36(4)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the inspection was completed on June 6, 2024 for both vehicles. Please ensure that vehicle inspections are completed annually.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that the first and second row seats were torn with exposed foam on van tag #TEE3016. The second row third seat contained a broken seat belt buckle on van tag #TEE3016.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards. The center will ensure to repair the documented seats and seat belts.

Correction Deadline: 7/19/2024

Recited on 7/3/2024

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2024

Corrected on 7/3/2024

.36(7)(c)2. - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the load and unload was observed to be completed for transportation on June 3, 2024, and June 5, 2024. Please ensure that the load and unload is completed for all children participating in transportation at all times.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2024

Corrected on 7/3/2024

.36(7)(d)1. - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the first check was completed for transportation on June 3, 2024, and June 5, 2024. Please ensure that the first check is documented for transportation at all times.

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2024

Corrected on 7/3/2024

.36(7)(d)2. - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the second check was observed to be completed for June 3, 2024, and June 5, 2024. Please ensure that the second check is completed for transportation at all times.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2024**Corrected on 7/3/2024**

.30(1)(a)2 - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the mats were replaced. There were currently five children enrolled. Please ensure that the mattresses are removed when torn and not in use at all times.

Staff Records

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

591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined based on observation the following items were missing from the following first aid kits:

- Van tag #TEE3016 - Thermometer, gloves, scissors, tweezers, insect sting preparation, antibacterial ointment, mask, cold pack, and protective eye wear.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center Staff will provide any missing first aid kits, add any missing items to each first aid kit and will develop and use a plan for checking the kits and replacing missing items in each kit in the future. First aid kits and instruction manuals will be stored so that they kits are not accessible to children but are easily accessible to Center Staff.

Correction Deadline: 7/5/2024**Recited on 7/3/2024**

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Defer****Correction Deadline: 6/5/2024****Corrected on 7/3/2024**

.33(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the orientation was observed completed for staff. Please ensure that orientation is completed at all times before staff is assigned to a classroom.

Defer

591-1-1-.33(3)- The correction deadline of July 5, 2024, has not yet passed.

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: 7/5/2024

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 6/5/2024****Corrected on 7/3/2024**

.31(2)(b)2. - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the staff is not the lead teacher and the current lead teacher has six months to enroll in an education credential.