



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: 1/20/2026 VisitType: Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 1:45 PM Departure: 3:45 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
Evon Hewitt
Phone: ()
Fax:
evon.hewitt@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.
01/20/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Support	
08/27/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/20/2025	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
Main	1L		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	2L	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	2R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	3	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	3L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	11	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
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: 31			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	8	18	9	6	0	66

Comments

The findings of this report were reviewed with the Provider on this date. Previous rule violations were observed/discussed.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 02/03/2026



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.state.ga.us/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.state.ga.us/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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(j)(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!



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) Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

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. The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring 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.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2026

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) Met

Comment

Evening care hours provided.

Facility

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 was observed on the bottom of the wall near the sink on the center's preschool playground bathroom.

Correction Deadline: 1/27/2026

Recited on 1/20/2026

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

Not Met

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 accessible to children on this date:

Small Playground

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

Large Playground

-There was a large crack at the base of the yellow slide measuring 1 foot, 8 inches.

-There was a broken, leaning basketball rim at the front right of the playground.

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2026

Recited on 1/20/2026

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 playground hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Small Playground

-There was a cracked, raised area in the middle black rubber mat near the left fence, creating a possible tripping hazard.

Small and Large Playground

-At the top of the fence that separated playgrounds, there were loose fence wires bent outward.

Large Playground

-There were thorny vines growing through the chain link fence at the back middle and back right of the playground.

Correction Deadline: 2/20/2026

Recited on 1/20/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that Staff in classroom 3L failed to wash children's hands before eating a snack.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2026

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	N/A
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591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	N/A
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Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

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

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Met
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591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Met
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Correction Deadline: 9/1/2025

Corrected on 1/20/2026

.36(4)(a) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant observed the Center to have current annual safety checks for five of five vehicles used for transportation.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Corrected on 1/20/2026

.36(4)(c) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant observed there to be fire extinguishers on all vehicles used for transportation on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

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

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Not Met****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 three Staff members that did not possess the educational requirements for the lead teachers.

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Recited on 1/20/2026

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that the:1:10 Staff:Child ratio was not maintained in classroom 3L, when there was only one staff member with seven 2-year-old children and four 3-year-old children present on this date.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2026

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that Staff in classrooms 2L and 3L were not seated within an arm's length away from children of age thirty-six (36) months of age and younger during meal time, as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2026