



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: 8/21/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 7:30 AM **Departure:** 10:30 AM

CCLC-36570

Kids Ahoy Learning Center

601 HILLCREST AVENUE Perry, GA 31069 Houston County
(478) 987-0051 mSheliakidsahoy@aol.com

Regional Consultant

Charlene Story

Phone: (770) 405-7942

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charlene.story@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.
08/21/2025	Monitoring Visit	Support	
03/21/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/20/2025	Complaint 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
Main	A	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	B-School-Age	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	11	C	15	C	Free Play
Main	C- 3-4 YEARS		0	0	C	22	C	30	C	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 53			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 11			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 53							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	79	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	10	11	4	3	0	11

Comments

Consultant reviewed Transportation Records and newly hired staff records on this date.

The Director was out on leave on this date.

An exit conference discussing the Monitoring visit report was conducted with the Owner on this date. An email with the Monitoring visit report was sent to the owner for signature on this date.

The CCS Consultant discussed and left a copy of the updated Child Care Weather Watch Chart with the program today. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 09/05/2025

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.decgal.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@decgal.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 MV:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured on this date.

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2025

Prior Visits: 01/09/2025

Corrected on 8/21/2025

.06(4) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The exhaust fan in the bathroom Classroom C was in working condition on this date.

591-1-1.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center on this date.

591-1-1.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/21/2025

Prior Visits: 03/20/2025

Corrected on 8/21/2025

.25(9) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Provider is ensuring that persons picking up the children are on the parents list of people to pick up the child.

591-1-1.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.26(9) - Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure there are no hazards on the playground.

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2025

Prior Visits: 07/26/2022

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.16(f) requires the Center to submit an application for an amended License at least 30 days prior to a change if there is a change in the name of the program or Center, changes in the ages of the children to be served, an increase in the regular hours of operation such that the Center would be providing evening or night-time care in addition to day-time care, changes in the services provided, or additions to or changes in the use of the building by the licensed Center. If an emergency situation arises which makes it impossible to give thirty (30) days' notice, the management of the Center shall notify the Department by telephone and shall submit an application for an amended License as soon as management becomes aware of the change that will be necessitated by the emergency situation. In no case, however, shall a new owner operate the Center without first securing a new License or Permit from the Department. It was determined based on observation, the middle room behind the kitchen, which is not a licensed area of the center, had fifteen children present ages:

2- 3-year-old children

1-4-year-old children

12-5 years and older

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2025

Prior Visits: 02/15/2023

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(a-o) - 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.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(r) - New - Consultant discussed with the Director 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.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(2)(r) - New - Consultant discussed with the Director 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.

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Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

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****Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on review of transportation records the following:

* On August 20, 2025 during the afternoon bus route from Morningside Elementary to the Facility, seven out of seven children being transported were missing a mark for loading the bus at the school and unloading at the facility or being absent.

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2025**Prior Visits: 01/09/2025**

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the date and time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on review of Transportation Records the following:

* On August 20, 2025, during the afternoon bus route from Morningside Elementary, there were no times documented for departure from the facility, arrival at the school, and arrival back at the facility.

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1. requires that the first check be conducted immediately upon unloading the last child at any location including, but not limited to, a field trip destination, arrival at the Center, and the last stop during transportation to home or school. The responsible person on the vehicle shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; sign the passenger transportation checklist (s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle; and give the passenger transportation checklist(s) to the second designated Staff person. It was determined based on review of transportation records that the following:

* On August 20, 2025, during the afternoon bus route from Morningside Elementary to the Facility, a first check was not documented as being completed.

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on review of transportation records the following:

* On August 20, 2025, during the afternoon bus route from Morningside Elementary to the Facility, a second check was not documented as being completed.

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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-.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: 8/21/2025**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

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

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2025**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: 9/20/2025**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)(2)(i)-(iv) - 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: 9/20/2025**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.