



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: 2/10/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 11:30 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-22108

MKS Learning Center

3385 Flat Shoals Road Decatur, GA 30034 DeKalb County
 (404) 241-7280 infomkslearningcenter@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Verlyn Gant

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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.
02/10/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/20/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/22/2022	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
Main	B-1yr		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	C	One Year Olds	1	4	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-2yr	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	F-2yr	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	G-3yr		0	0	C	30	C	41	C	
Main	H-(Private Pre-K)	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	20	C	29	C	Nap
Main	Infant A	Infants	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap,Free Play,Diapering
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 105			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 133							
Total # Children this Date: 33			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 105							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 133							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Preschool	49	C
Main	Toddler	25	C

Comments

An in-person inspection was conducted on February 10, 2023 with the Director.

Background checks, staff files, children's files, and training documentation were all reviewed on February 10, 2023.

The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the Monitoring Visit report was given to the Director on February 10, 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.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 1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Estella Freeman, Program Official

Date

Verlyn Gant, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 2/10/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 11:30 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

One or more parameters were not specified for the subreport, 'Subreport5', located at:
myKoalaRDECreationConsole.Reports.RDLC.ChildMissingRequirements.rdlc

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that one of five children's enrollment records did not include the address of the release person, the parents work address, and the address of the person to whom the child may be released as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2023

Recited on 2/10/2023

Facility**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that there was a bottle of bleach and water solution, in an unlocked cupboard above the children's sink in classroom H-(Private Pre-K) at a level accessible to children. Additionally, there was some liquid cleaner and a plastic bag accessible to children in an unlocked cupboard accessible to children in classroom I-School Age.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2023

Recited on 2/10/2023

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 two small pink bikes had rust on the frame, and the swings had rust on the chains.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 2/20/2023

Correction Deadline: 9/20/2022

Corrected on 2/10/2023

.26(9) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that based on observation the potential hazard on the swing and yellow seat had been repaired or replaced. Additionally, the tree roots in the pre-school play area had been painted to make them more visible.

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met**

Correction Deadline: 9/20/2022

Corrected on 2/10/2023

.15(1) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that based on observation all milk in the refrigerator was within date.

Correction Deadline: 9/20/2022

Corrected on 2/10/2023

.15(7) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that based on a review of records, the menu had been revised and did not have items that should not be served to children less than four (4) years of age.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.18(5) requires the refrigeration of all perishable and potentially hazardous foods at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below and served promptly after cooking. Freezer temperature shall be maintained at zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit or below.

Please ensure there are working thermometers in the refrigerators and freezers.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Met

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the teachers on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

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

One or more parameters were not specified for the subreport, 'StaffMissingRequirements', located at: myKoaLaPDFCreationConsole Reports RDI C StaffMissingRequirements.rdlc

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #5 did not have the most recently issued determination letter ported electronically prior to their hire date as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2022

Corrected on 2/10/2023

.33(3) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that based on a review of documentation all staff had completed the health and safety training.

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.