



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: 11/10/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:40 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-63428

Kidz Korner Learning Academy

118 Neil Street Fort Valley, GA 31030 Peach County
(478) 827-5072

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@dec.al.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.
11/10/2025	Licensing Study	Deficient	
05/01/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/12/2024	Initial 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	Room A (front left)	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	26	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room B (back left)	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	11	C	24	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room D (back right)	GA PreK	2	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room E (front right)	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	23	C	NA	NA	Free Play
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 93		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 35			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 93		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A (back)	38	C
Main	Playground B (left side)	27	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	5	10	15	11	0	0

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

A plan of improvement will need to be submitted through decal koala by November 25, 2025. The plan will need to include the date of correction, the manner in which the rule was corrected and how the rule will be maintained.

- 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 11/25/2025

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



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

Summary Report

Date: 11/10/2025 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:40 AM Departure: 1:30 PM

CCLC-63428

Kidz Korner Learning Academy

118 Neil Street Fort Valley, GA 31030 Peach County
(478) 827-5072

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on a review of records that lesson plans were not current and were for past weeks.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

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

Not Met

Comment

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

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 blue couches in the right side two-year-old room and the blue chairs in the Pre-K room were in need of repair as they had exposed foam.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the yellow shelves in the two-year-old room will need to be secured.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing,.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing,.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

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, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of enrollment applications that the following information was missing:

four of five did not have if the child had any allergies or special conditions

one of five did not have the address for the release person

one of five did not have the relationship of the release person

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

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**

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

.25(13) Citation observed to be corrected.

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 alphabet rugs in the left side (3-year-old room) and the right side (2-year-old room) were in need of being cleaned.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025
.26(6) - Citation corrected.

Correction Deadline: 5/5/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025
.26(8) - Citation corrected.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025
.26(9) - Citation corrected.

Food Service

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the food outside the original container needs to be labeled as to the content.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025
.15(2) - Citation corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.15(7) requires that food be served according to manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability. It was determined based on a review of the center menu that sausage links and meat balls were being served to children under the age of four.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Recited on 11/10/2025

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifier or other hazardous items. It was determined based on observation that a child in the infant/1-year-old class has a pacifier clip attached to their clothing.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diapering pad in the right side, 2-year-old class, had a small tear in the middle.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Recited on 11/10/2025

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

.17(7) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

.17(8) - Citation observed to be corrected.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization

Technical Assistance

The center added a wall to the infant/1-year-old room reducing the size. Consultant discussed that an amendment needs to be submitted in decal koala by November 20, 2025.

Correction Deadline: 11/24/2025

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records that no fire drill was conducted for October 2025, and no tornado or lock down drill were conducted thus far for the 2025 year.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2025

Technical Assistance

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.

Also discussed 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.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2025

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.13(2) requires Center Staff to obtain written permission from Parents in advance of the child's participation in any field trip and such permission must be signed and dated by a Parent. It was determined based on a review of records that on October 24, 2025 a field trip was taken to Dickey Farms and the center did not have the parents date the form on the day they signed the form.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Recited on 11/10/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.13(6) requires Center Staff to have emergency medical information on each child who goes on a field trip that includes allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications required to be taken on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and phone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility the Center uses in the area where the Center is located, and the telephone numbers where the parent can be reached. The emergency medical information shall be left at the Center as well as taken on the trip in the possession of the adult in charge of the trip. It was determined based on a review of records the center did not have emergency medical forms form for five of five children the center transported.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Recited on 11/10/2025

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

.36(3)(a-b) - Citation corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on a review of records that the center did not have an annual safety check on file for the vehicle being used to transport children on October 24, 2025.

Recited on 11/10/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

.36(7)(c)3. - Citation observed to be corrected.

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 a review of records that on October 24, 2025 no first check was completed after a field trip to Dickey Farms.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Recited on 11/10/2025

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 a review of records that no second checks were completed when the center took a field trip to Dickey Farms on October 24, 2025.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Recited on 11/10/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that three of six crib mattresses had a quilted pattern that name them non-porous.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

.30(1)(a)3 Citation corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on observation that center mats were observed to have exposed foam.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

.30(2) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 15

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 9

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/12/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/06/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/07/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/19/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

Staff # 9

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/12/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/16/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

Staff # 12

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/17/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/06/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

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)

Not Met

Finding

Previously Cited: 591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that staff members #1, #5 and #9 were over 9 days of hire and did not have first aid and CPR on file.

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on a review of records that staff members #1, #3, #4, #7, #11, #12 and #14 were over 45 days of hire and did not have first aid and CPR meeting rules requirements.

Correction Deadline: 11/14/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on a review of records that Rooms A, B and E did not have staff members present in the room that were currently trained in first aid and CPR.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2025

Corrected on 11/10/2025

.33(1) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Technical Assistance

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

Correction Deadline: 11/11/2025

Technical Assistance

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: 11/11/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #14 did not have health and safety orientation within 90 days of hire and the training on file was over a year prior to their hire date.

Correction Deadline: 12/10/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on a review of records that staff members #2 and #8 did not have the required food service and nutrition training.

Correction Deadline: 12/10/2025

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.