



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: 7/31/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:05 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM

CCLC-53607

Kulima Montessori

130 Carnegie Place Fayetteville, GA 30214 Fayette County
(678) 772-8770 bwilliams@kulimamontessori.org

Regional Consultant

Kayla Evans

Phone: (678) 222-4758

Fax:

kayla.evans@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
07/31/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/12/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
12/04/2024	Complaint Investigation & 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- 1L	Six Year Olds and Over	1	17	C	43	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Free Play
Main	B- Back Left		0	0	C	42	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C- Back Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	14	NC	0	NC	NA	NA	
Main	D- 2R	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	7	C	26	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E- 1R	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	4	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 123			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 42			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- 1 - 3 years	20	C
Main	B- 4+	117	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
1	4	8	6	6	0	34

Comments

Consultant discussed "How to Do Amendments" with the Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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



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(Findings Report)

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Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a LS:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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)

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2024

Prior Visits: 12/04/2024

Corrected on 7/31/2025

.25(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The double-pane window in Room E-1R was repaired and no missing glass was observed on this date.

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.26(6)- Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit. Playground B -4+ was under construction and not in use on this date.

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: 12/14/2024

Prior Visits: 12/04/2024

Defer

591-1-1-.26(8)- Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit. Playground B - 4+ was under construction and not in use on this date.

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: 12/14/2024**Prior Visits: 12/04/2024****Food Service****Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene**Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization**Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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 observations that Room C - Back Right was licensed as Special Use and observed to be utilized as a regular classroom for children ages three through age six.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

An application for amendment and all necessary documentation will be submitted.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2025**Prior Visits: 12/04/2024****Recited on 7/31/2025****Safety****Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2024**Prior Visits: 12/04/2024****Corrected on 7/31/2025****.30(1)(a)2 - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Crib mattresses in Room E 1-R was observed to be tight-fitting and covered with waterproof, washable material on this date.****Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2024

Prior Visits: 03/08/2023

Corrected on 7/31/2025

.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All Staff had evidence of a Satisfactory Comprehensive Background Check on File on this date.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2024

Prior Visits: 12/04/2024

Corrected on 7/31/2025

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All Staff had evidence of a Satisfactory Comprehensive Background Check on File on this date.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2024

Prior Visits: 12/04/2024

Corrected on 7/31/2025

.09(1)(j) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All Staff had evidence of a Satisfactory Comprehensive Background Check on File on this date.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)

Met

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

Correction Deadline: 1/3/2025

Prior Visits: 12/04/2024

Corrected on 7/31/2025

.14(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All staff had evidence of current First/Aid/CPR Training on file on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2024

Prior Visits: 12/04/2024

Corrected on 7/31/2025

.33(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All Staff had evidence of Initial Staff Orientation on file on this date.

Correction Deadline: 1/3/2025

Prior Visits: 12/04/2024

Corrected on 7/31/2025

.33(3)(a)-(k) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All Staff had evidence of Health and Safety Orientation Training on file on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff member #3 did not have evidence of ten (10) clock hours of diverse training for the calendar 2024 as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 8/30/2025

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.