



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: 10/3/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:35 AM **Departure:** 12:25 PM

CCLC-53592

KinderCare Learning Center (Cooper Lake #167)

1635 Cooper Lake Rd. Smyrna, GA 30082 Cobb County
(770) 435-3344

Regional Consultant

Kara Williams

Phone: ()

Fax:

kara.williams@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.
10/03/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/26/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/20/2024	Monitoring Visit	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 - 1L	Three Year Olds	2	23	C	34	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room B - 2L (left)	One Year Olds	2	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room C - 2L (right)	Infants	1	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room D - PreK (left)	GA PreK	2	19	C	36	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room E - PreK (right)	GA PreK	2	20	C	36	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room F - Rear	Three Year Olds	2	15	C	27	C	NA	NA	Centers

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 169

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 92

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 169

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground (School-Age)	53	C
Main	Playground (Toddler)	109	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	9	19	29	40	0	0

Comments

Discussed rule changes and updates effective July 1, 2025.

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.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!



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)

Met

Comment

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

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

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

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 10/3/2025

.19(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date, Classroom A had 23 children present with a capacity of 34.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 10/3/2025

.25(13) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date, all trash cans were covered with no visible trash bags accessible to children on this day.

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 following items needed attention:

All classrooms needed to be dusted (Ventilation fans, a/c vents, ceilings, sinks and window seals).

All classroom air filters needed to be changed due to dust.

Room E (Pre-K right)- Stained ceiling tiles needed to be replaced.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2025

Recited on 10/3/2025

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

Defer

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Comment

Playground (Toddler) not observed on this date due to renovation.

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Defer

591-1-1-.26(9)-Playground (Toddler) is currently under renovation and was not observed on this day. additionally no hazards were observed on playground (School age)

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards. The center will remove the hazardous items.

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2025

Food Service

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2025

Corrected on 10/3/2025

.15(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date, all infants were observed with current and complete infant feeding plans.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Comment

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers.

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

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment

Please ensure soiled items are stored inaccessible to children.

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

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

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/31/1992

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

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

Met

Comment

Director provided 2 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 10/3/2025

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date, all current staff had a current satisfactory background check on file.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 10/3/2025

.09(1)(l)3. - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date, all current staff had a current satisfactory background check on file.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Please be mindful of training expiration dates.

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: 11/2/2025

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

Met

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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.