



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 2/16/2022 **VisitType:** Follow-Up

Arrival: 6:20 AM

Departure: 8:10 AM

CCLC-16643

Kidz Fortress Childcare Learning Center

2421 Mike Padgett Highway, Suite A Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
 (706) 798-1072 kidzfortress@comcast.net

Mailing Address
 Same

Regional Consultant

Kaycee Purvis
 Phone: (770) 357-4915
 Fax: (404) 478-8085
 kaycee.purvis@decal.ga.gov

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.
02/16/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/07/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/12/2021	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	

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.

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	1L		0	0	C	20	C	28	C	
Main	1R		0	0	C	15	C	21	C	
Main	2 R		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	2L		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	3L		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main	3R	Six Year Olds and Over	1	5	C	16	C	23	C	Centers
Main	4L		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	4R		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	5R		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 130				
Total # Children this Date: 5			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 130				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Left	31	C
Main	Right Back	61	C
Main	Right Front Yard	41	C

Comments

A copy of the CI Follow up visit was emailed to the provider. An exit conference was conducted virtually.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.state.ga.us/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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

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), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

Jessica Holmes, Program Official

Date

Kaycee Purvis, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022

Corrected on 2/16/2022

.25(13) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant did not observe hazards accessible to children on this date.

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.26(4)-Citation deferred. Due date not approached.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022

Defer

591-1-1-.26(6)-Citation deferred. Due date not approached.

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: 2/17/2022

Defer

591-1-1-.26(9)-Citation deferred. Due date not approached.

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.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2.-Citation deferred. Due date not approached.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.33(4)-Citation deferred. Due date not approached.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2022