



**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:** 5/17/2023    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 11:45 AM    **Departure:** 3:00 PM

**CCLC-57713**

**Kreative Kidz Academy**

1794 East Park Avenue Valdosta, GA 31602 Lowndes County  
(229) 300-5747 kreativekidz1@yahoo.com

**Region Consultant**

Rena Keene

Phone: (912) 544-9930  
Fax: (912) 544-9926  
rena.keene@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
05/17/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/05/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/05/2022	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	A		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Main	B	One Year Olds	2	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Nap
Main	C	Infants	1	4	C	10	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Nap
Main	D	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	16	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	E		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	F		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 29			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	47	C

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/17/2023

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.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](http://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@decgal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decgal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

Michelle Baker, Program Official

Date

Rena Keene, Consultant

Date



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**(Findings 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**

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

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

**Met**

**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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. Please be sure that adequate resilient material is maintained beneath the swings as it gets kicked away during use and compacted.

**Correction Deadline: 5/27/2023**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

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

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

**Comment**

Consultant was unable to inspect the vehicle prior to ending the visit. The vehicle had left the premises for the after-school routes and a heavy thunderstorm was approaching.

**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 transportation records and staff statements that a second check of the vehicle was not completed on Monday, May 15, 2023 when four children were transported from S.L. Mason Elementary School to the center, and a second check was not completed on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, when six children were transported from S.L. Mason Elementary School to the center. Additionally, it was determined that one child was transported from Hallmark Heights Elementary School to the center on Monday, May 15, 2023, and on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, and no second check was made of the vehicle on either of these dates.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

**Correction Deadline: 5/17/2023**

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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**Staff Records**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.09(1)(g) requires the Center to maintain valid evidence of a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination at the Child Care Learning Center for the Director and each Employee (including Students-in-Training, Volunteers, independent contractors and residents age 17 and older) for the duration of employment or residency plus one year, and such electronic evidence must be made immediately available to the Department upon request. Please be sure that a background check is obtained for Employee No. 3, who will turn 17 years of age this month.

**Correction Deadline: 5/17/2023**

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**591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation; It was determined based on a review of staff records and staff statements that there was no personnel file available for Staff No 5. The background check on file for this employee was date January 17, 2023, and the director stated that the staff was employed on January 31, 2023.

Additionally, there was no staff record available for Employee No. 3, who is a sixteen year old volunteer and was present in the classroom where children ages three to five years were napping. This employee stated that she had been working at the center for approximately six months and stated that she started working at the center in October, 2022.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will secure required information for all Personnel. The Center will ensure that complete information is in the personnel file for all Directors, Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance and other Support Staff.

**Correction Deadline: 5/22/2023**

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task. It was determined based on a review of staff records and staff statements that Employee No. 10 did not have evidence that she received orientation prior to beginning her duties at the center.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and provide orientation for all new Staff prior to their staff's assignment to children or task.

**Correction Deadline: 5/17/2023**

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on staff statements and consultant's observation that there was no staff in the three-year-old classroom who is qualified to serve as a lead teacher.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

**Correction Deadline: 5/17/2023**

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Comment**

Discussed naptime ratios.

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**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

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