



**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:** 12/16/2019 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:50 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

**CCLC-50192**

**MontaBella Little School, Inc**

226 Elm Street Lincolnton, GA 30817 Lincoln County  
 (706) 359-4840 montabellalittleschool@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Neli Todorova

Phone: (770) 359-5167  
 Fax: (678) 891-5630  
 neli.todorova@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<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.
12/16/2019	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/21/2019	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/21/2019	Initial Licensing Study	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	A-Front- 3's & Up	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	12	C	16	C	Music	
Main	B-1L-Infant & 1's	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play	
Main	C-Back-2's	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	9	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Free Play	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:					31	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:					35
Total # Children this Date: 28			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	25	C

**Comments**

Temporary Permission to Operate was issued by the Fire Marshall on May 20, 2019. Fire Marshall Certificate of Occupancy pending due to the Fire Marshall unable to conduct a Follow Up visit until January 2020. The provider was granted two (2) Temporary Licenses, and per policy another one cannot be granted. Permanent License and Permission to Operate issued on this date, since the delay in obtaining the Fire Marshall Certificate of Occupancy is caused by the Fire Marshall scheduling. Consultant will follow up with the Applicant until the Certificate of Occupancy is obtained.

A citation for not obtaining the Certificate of Occupancy added on March 9, 2020. The State Fire Marshall conducted a Follow Up visit at the center on March 2, 2020. There were two violations noted on the report and a Certificate of Occupancy was not issued and will not be issued until the violations are corrected.

The facility does not have Liability Insurance.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/16/2019

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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov).

- 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://decal.ga.gov/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)



**Important New Deadlines:**

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

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

Montana Dawkins, Program Official

Date

Neli Todorova, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 12/16/2019 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:50 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

#### CCLC-50192

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

### 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)** **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.

#### Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical** **Not Met**

#### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(10) - Temporary Permission to Operate was issued by the Fire Marshall on May 20, 2019. Fire Marshall Certificate of Occupancy pending due to the Fire Marshall unable to conduct a Follow Up visit until January 2020. The provider was granted two (2) Temporary Licenses, and per policy another one cannot be granted. Permanent License and Permission to Operate issued on this date, since the delay in obtaining the Fire Marshall Certificate of Occupancy is caused by the Fire Marshall scheduling. Consultant will follow up with the Applicant until the Certificate of Occupancy is obtained.

**Correction Deadline: 12/16/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(10) requires the Center to be in compliance with applicable laws and regulations issued by the state fire marshal, the proper local fire marshal or state inspector, including a certificate of occupancy if required prior to receiving any children for care. It was determined based on review of records that the State Fire Marshall conducted a Follow Up visit at the center on March 2, 2020. There were two violations noted on the report and a Certificate of Occupancy was not issued and will not be issued until the violations are corrected.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will secure a certificate of occupancy.

**Correction Deadline: 3/18/2020**

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

**Health and Hygiene**
**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff observed throughout the center.

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

The provider reported no medication since the last visit and on this date. Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

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

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

**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center does not provide transportation.

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

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

**Comment**

There were four cribs that meet the Safety Requirements. Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. The appropriate number of mats, sheets and covers for the capacity of classroom B were observed on this date.

## Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete for 10 staff.

**Comment**

Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10 year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the child care industry.

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR** **Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training** **Met****Comment**

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.

**Comment**

Discussed: Health and Safety Training and CPR/First Aid is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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

591-1-1-.31(2)(c)-Previous citation deferred on this date as the provider did not have the necessary funds for the CDA registration until now, and will register the Lead Teachers by the end of 2019.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The owner will make sure that staff enrolls in a program and will monitor their progress.

**Correction Deadline: 8/28/2019**

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## Staffing and Supervision

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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.

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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.