



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: 7/16/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:10 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-36660

Stepping Stone Montessori

820 Sanders Road Cumming, GA 30041 Forsyth County
 (770) 205-0317 info@steppingstonemontessori.com

Regional Consultant

Mandi Sloan

Phone: (770) 357-5097
 Fax: (770) 357-5098
 mandi.sloan@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.
07/16/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/13/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/01/2018	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 1st Left	Infants and One Year Olds	2	3	C	12	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Floor Play
Main	B 2nd left		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Main	C 3rd left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	11	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D 1st Right	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	17	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E 2nd Right		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	
Main	F 3rd Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	10	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	G 4th Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	15	C	29	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H 5th right		0	0	C	36	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 179						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 56			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 179			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				


Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A PG Front Left	17	C
Main	B PG Rear	114	C
Main	C PG Right	76	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/16/2019

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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), 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)

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.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

Catherine Mauragas, Program Official

Date

Mandi Sloan, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

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)

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2019

Corrected on 7/16/2019

.25(13) - The previous citation is corrected on this date as no hazards were found accessible to children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(17) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure weeds and vines that may be hazardous are not permitted to grow in mulch or on fencing.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2019

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(7) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure the door the the laundry room/ riser room remains locked and inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2019

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

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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

Consultant observed proper hand washing.

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

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2019

Corrected on 7/16/2019

.20(3) - Previous citation is corrected as medication records were observed to be complete on this date.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting Met

Comment

Discussed reporting requirements.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Comment

Center does not provide transportation.

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

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 04/14/2014	Met
Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 02/11/2019	Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 04/08/2018 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied	Not Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 12/12/2013	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 02/13/2019 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied	Not Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 10/30/2018	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 07/15/2019 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied	Not Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 6

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)	Not Met
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Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on review of records that three staff members (hire dates 2/13/2019, 4/8/2018 and 7/15/2019) had not been ported electronically in KOALA. Consultant assisted program in porting these employees.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CBC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2019

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

Met

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

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

Met

Comment

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