



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: 1/28/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 11:45 AM

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		
01/28/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
11/30/2020	POI Follow Up	Good Standing
11/02/2020	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing

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.

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	2	2	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding
Main	B 2nd left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	13	C	12	NC	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C 3rd left		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D 1st Right		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E 2nd Right		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F 3rd Right		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	G 4th Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	23	C	29	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H 5th right		0	0	C	36	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 179						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 38			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

A virtual inspection was conducted on January 28, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on May 12, 2020 was reviewed.

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/Regulations.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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

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

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(17) - The consultant discussed with the provider to ensure that the Center premises be free of plants and shrubs which could be poisonous or hazardous are not allowed to grow on playground fences.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2021

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Playground appeared to be clean and in good repair upon virtual walk through.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing requirements for children and staff were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Provider 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 routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sleeping and Resting was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper sleeping and resting were discussed with the Provider on this date.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 13

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 09/03/2020

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2014

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 02/02/2020

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 02/11/2019

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 09/21/2016

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 12/12/2013

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 10/27/2020

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 09/05/2014

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 07/07/2020

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 09/14/2020

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 08/13/2020

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 10/30/2018

Staff # 13 Met

Date of Hire: 08/16/2020

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 6**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Met****Comment**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after the last visit conducted on November 30, 2020. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Comment

591-1-1-.31(13) - Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2021

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.