



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: 10/28/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:40 AM Departure: 3:00 PM

CCLC-52652
Montessori Academy
189A Sams Street Decatur, GA 30030 DeKalb County
(404) 320-0400 ms.sindy@montessoriacademydecatur.com

Regional Consultant
Maryn Accord
Phone: (404) 591-6031
Fax:
maryn.accord@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Jessica Johnson, Jessica Johnson

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.
10/28/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/08/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/18/2023	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
Building 2	A;1st Left Lft-Inf/Tod	Infants and One Year Olds	2	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Outside
Building 2	B;Left Inf/Tod	One Year Olds	1	4	C	14	C	NA	NA	Outside,Story,Circle Time
Building 2	C: Right Inf/Tod	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	13	C	5	NC	NA	NA	Outside,Snack
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks				
Single	A/1L/1's & 2's	Infants	1	3	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside
Single	B/2L/6 wks- 18 mths		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Single	C/3L/AS		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Single	D/1L/ Upper- 3-6 yrs	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	8	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Single	E/1R/Upper- 3-6 yrs	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers,Outside
Single	F/2R/3-6 yrs		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 94			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Building Department				
Total # Children this Date: 42			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 119			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Single	PG/Left	44	C

Single	PG/Middle	7	C
Single	PG/Right	5	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	10	13	12	10	0	0

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/28/2024

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.al.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 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 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, brush, etc.) out of reach of children.

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

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.25(12) - The Consultants discussed with the Director to ensure that heating and cooling equipment shall be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 10/28/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.25(8) - The Consultants discussed with the Director to ensure that all electrical outlets have protective covers on them. It is required to have protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and required that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 10/28/2024

591-1-1.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2024

.26(6) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants observed the playground equipment to be free of hazards and in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2024

.26(9) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants observed the playground fence to be free from any gaps or openings.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2024

.10(1) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants observed all diapering areas to have proper ventilation and/or functioning exhaust fans on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Please ensure that fish tanks within classrooms shall be maintained and routinely cleaned.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

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

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) - The Consultants discussed with the Director how to ensure that cots that are stored in children's classrooms and/or activity areas should be stored in such a way as to prevent children's access to them. For example, the stack of cots could be covered with a sheet or similar material or positioned behind toy shelving to prevent children's access.

Correction Deadline: 10/28/2024

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Not Met****Correction Deadline: 2/7/2024****Corrected on 10/28/2024**

.14(2) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants observed that fifty percent of the caregiver Staff have completed their CPR and first aid training and have current evidence of the completion of such training on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined based on observation that a cold pack and protective eye wear were missing from the first aid kit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center Staff will provide any missing first aid kits, add any missing items to each first aid kit and will develop and use a plan for checking the kits and replacing missing items in each kit in the future. First aid kits and instruction manuals will be stored so that they kits are not accessible to children but are easily accessible to Center Staff.

Correction Deadline: 11/4/2024**Recited on 10/28/2024**

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Correction Deadline: 2/7/2024****Corrected on 10/28/2024**

.33(5) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants observed all eligible staff to have ten annual training hours on file as required on this date.

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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that, when transitioning to go outside, three children in a multi-child stroller were left out of sight for approximately one minute when staff #9 left the stroller outside of the threshold of classroom A/1L/1's & 2's, located in the Single building, to walk back into the classroom to gather items for outside play.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 10/28/2024

Recited on 10/28/2024