



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 12/1/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:55 AM

Departure: 12:20 PM

CCLC-54595

Heritage Montessori

328 Hwy 42 N McDonough, GA 30253 Henry County
 (770) 957-9998 office@heritagemontessori.school

Regional Consultant

April Brown

Phone: (770) 357-5101

Fax: (770) 357-5102

april.brown@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
12/01/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/05/2022	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/02/2021	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 - One and Two-Year-Olds	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	11	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	B - Three to Five Years Old	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	21	NC	20	NC	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C - School Age	Six Year Olds and Over	2	24	C	22	NC	NA	NA	Circle Time
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks			
Total # Children this Date: 55			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Three to Twelve Year Old	52	C
Main	B - One and Two Year Olds	12	C

Comments

MV completed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/01/2022

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



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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

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)

Kimberly Morey, Program Official

Date

April Brown, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 12/1/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:55 AM **Departure:** 12:20 PM

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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

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable on this date.

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities on this date.

Facility

591-1-1.19 License Capacity(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation Classroom B was over capacity in that there were 21 children present instead of 20 children. Classroom C was also over capacity in that there were 24 children present instead of 22 children on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 12/1/2022

591-1-1.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation the following hazards were accessible to children in care:

- * Baby wipes, labeled as a suffocation hazard, were present in the bathroom area for children in Classroom B.
- * A stapler and handsanitizer labeled, "Keep out of reach of children" was located on top of the cubbies in Classroom B.
- * A first aid kit with items labeled, "Keep out of reach of children" was located on top of a box in Classroom C.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items. The assistant director moved and locked the hazardous items on site.

Correction Deadline: 12/1/2022

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation the wooden climbing structure on Playground A had six inch gaps and a 14 in gaps which created entrapment hazards.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 12/11/2022

Finding

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. It was determined based on observation there was approximately two inches of resilient surface surrounding the wooden climbing structure instead of six inches which was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 12/11/2022

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures on this date.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The center currently does not dispense or administer medication at this time.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****Comment**

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged. The center has three DeKay's brown snakes in a cage that were non-venomous on this date.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed discipline rules with staff members and the assistant director on this date. Rule 591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or unsupervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat.

Correction Deadline: 12/1/2022

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation at this time per the assistant director.

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. There were no infants enrolled on this date.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 9**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 08/02/2021	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 04/27/2022	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 01/19/2022	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 07/01/2021	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 08/30/2022	
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Staff # 9	Met

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete on this date.

Comment

Director provided two file(s) for employees hired since the last visit which was completed on May 5, 2022.

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations on this date.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure children are 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. Consultant discussed supervision plans with the staff members for children using the restroom to ensure continued compliance with supervision.

Correction Deadline: 12/1/2022