



**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:** 11/25/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 11:20 AM **Departure:** 2:40 PM

**CCLC-62023**

**Lifespan Montessori of Athens**

570 Research Drive Athens, GA 30605 Clarke County  
(706) 424-3861 amber@milestoneed.com

Regional Consultant

Dana Maxwell

Phone: (470) 233-5850

Fax:

dana.maxwell@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                                         |               | <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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11/25/2024                  | Licensing Study                         | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 05/31/2024                  | Incident Investigation/Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 05/31/2024                  | Incident Investigation 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     |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| Main                            | 1L-Infant      | Infants and One Year Olds                             | 2                               | 12       | C    | 19                                                         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap       |
| Main                            | 1R-Preschool   | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 1                               | 15       | C    | 44                                                         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play |
| Main                            | 2nd Hallway 1R |                                                       | 0                               | 0        | C    | 88                                                         | C            | NA         | NA           |           |
| Main                            | 2nd Hallway 2R |                                                       | 0                               | 0        | C    | 27                                                         | C            | NA         | NA           |           |
| Main                            | 2nd Hallway 3R |                                                       | 0                               | 0        | C    | 30                                                         | C            | NA         | NA           |           |
| Main                            | Middle-Toddler | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds                       | 2                               | 12       | C    | 24                                                         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap       |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 138 |                |                                                       | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0   |          |      | Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations |              |            |              |           |
| Total # Children this Date: 39  |                |                                                       | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 138 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0                              |              |            |              |           |

| Building | Playground        | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground A      | 76                   | C                     |
| Main     | Playground C      | 44                   | C                     |
| Main     | pygd B-behind ctr | 20                   | C                     |

| <b>Enrolled Children</b> |                |                |                |                |                           |                          |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Under 1 years</b>     | <b>1 years</b> | <b>2 years</b> | <b>3 years</b> | <b>4 years</b> | <b>5 years (Prekonly)</b> | <b>5 years and older</b> |
| 2                        | 13             | 9              | 8              | 2              | 5                         | 0                        |

#### **Comments**

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

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.decga.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](http://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@decga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



**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

**(Findings Report)**

**Date:** 11/25/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 11:20 AM **Departure:** 2:40 PM

**CCLC-62023**

**Lifespan Montessori of Athens**

570 Research Drive Athens, GA 30605 Clarke County  
(706) 424-3861 amber@milestoneed.com

Regional Consultant

Dana Maxwell

Phone: (470) 233-5850

Fax:

dana.maxwell@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

The following information is associated with a 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**

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

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please ensure all tree roots are painted bright color in order to prevent a tripping hazard.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2024**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.10(6) requires Center Staff to keep any items which might harm a child out of a child's reach. It was determined based on observation in the Infant classroom, there were plastic gloves and cleaner within child's reach on the diapering station.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any harmful item and provide instruction to staff. that includes identification and storage of hazardous items and procedures for keeping classrooms and other children's areas free of hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2024**

**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(7) - Please ensure there is soap in all bathrooms for children to use washing their hands.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2024**

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

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

**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****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****Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on review of records that Staff #4 and Staff #13 and Staff#17 did not have evidence of current CPR certification.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2024**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on review of records Staff #3, Staff #15, and Staff #16 did not have evidence of completing the Health and Safety training.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

**Correction Deadline: 12/25/2024**

**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**

**Correction Deadline: 5/31/2024**

**Corrected on 11/25/2024**

**.32(7) - All children were adequately supervised.**