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: 8/4/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 4:30 PM

CCLC-35611
Montessori School of Snellville at Childcare Network #234
2350 Wisteria Dr. Snellville, GA 30078 Gwinnett County
(770) 979-0500

Lead Consultant
Dianne Clarke
Phone: (404) 357-7855
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dianne.clarke@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
08/04/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing
04/20/2026	POI Follow Up	Good Standing
03/25/2026	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.

Data retrieval failed for the subreport, 'RatioCapacity', located at: Koala.Reports.Visits.RDLC.RatioCapacity.rdlc.

Comments
Be sure to enter all temporary closures by 7 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, inclement weather, holidays etc…) in DECAL KOALA under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is temporarily closed when you are not caring for children for one or more days.
Be sure to SAVE the report before exiting.
All amendments are required to be electronically submitted in DECAL KOALA.
Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.
All programs: Please ensure that the director and staff responsible for food preparation completes the four (4) hours of nutrition training as soon as possible but within the first year of employment. (if applicable)

Please remember that the transportation training certificates must be completed prior to participating in transportation and renewed every two years for anyone checking the vehicle, chaperoning on a trip, and signing the checklist, including the director. Please ensure that directors complete the transportation training upon being hired at the center. Please ensure to contact your consultant for guidance if you have not been conducting transportation before you plan to conduct transportation in the future. (if applicable)
**There is a free Transportation Training available on OLLI in Georgia PDS (GaPDS). Health and Safety Orientation Training 15-hour course is available free online in OLLI (staff must successfully complete all three trainings to meet licensing requirements). PLEASE NOTE: If the Health & Safety Orientation Training date is outside of the previous 12 months, the training was not approved for 10 credit hours, or the training certificate is not documented in the employee's GaPDS account, the Staff person will be required to take this training again, within their first 90 days of employment at a new facility. Reminder: Health and Safety Orientation Training can only be taken once every five years.
Discussed indicator manual and utilizing it.
Discussed regarding ensuring to complete rechecks for Criminal Records checks at least 90 days before the five-year expiration. Suggestion: Check monthly or sooner to ensure that staff's criminal records checks are not expiring.
Don't forget to post a new license annually.
Discussed regarding nap/crib mats regarding not using tape to repair; must replace (if applicable).
Updates beginning July 1, 2026: The new CRC process requires that every program sign a form called the Georgia National Child Protection Act/Volunteers for Children Act (NCPA/VCA) Public Qualified Entity Certification Statement. This statement must be signed by both the owner and the director of the childcare entity. Not signing the statement will prevent your program from receiving background check determination letters after July 1, 2026, and until the requirement has been fulfilled.
Recent Changes/Updates: Core Rule: CPR and First Aid will be due within 45 days. 2 hours of Language and Literacy/2 hours of Health and Safety training annually beginning July 1, 2025, a required for all staff. Also, SUID (Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome formerly SIDS) must be included on the orientation checklist along with abusive head trauma. **Please don't forget to add to your childcare policies and procedures concerning expulsion, suspension, and practices followed to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma.
Provided Chop, Look, Listen Information

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

CCLC Indicator Manual

For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx.

Compliance at a Glance

For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: https://families.decal.ga.gov.

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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure that the brown vinyl chair is removed from classroom A. Remember to remove equipment and furniture that is not in good repair immediately.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

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 on this date.

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 that the following hazards were observed:

-A: A toilet brush was observed to be accessible on the floor on the right side of the toilet bowl in the girls bathroom.
-C: Plastic bag with clothing, a Ziplock back with clothing and a grocery bag with clothing were observed to be accessible in children's cubbies.

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 toilet brushes were removed during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the following repairs were needed:
-A: The black border was observed to be peeling or detached on the left in the library area and on the right in the science area. There was a missing piece of the black border and the remaining border was peeling in the circle time area.
-D: There was a missing piece of the black border on the left upon entrance into the classroom and there was a sticky residue. Also, the cabinet near the sink was observed to be peeling and shredded wood was accessible.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring. The director will put in another emergency work order tonight to have the repairs made to the black borders. The cabinet was covered during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2026

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.26(6) - Please ensure that all equipment that are not in good repair is removed on Playground B, including tricycles with missing covers on the handles.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground:
-Playground A: An unraveled green hose was observed to be accessible to the children on the right upon exit from the classroom onto playground. Sweet gum balls were also observed to be on the playground.
-Playground B: A cap was observed to be missing at the end of the white PVC border to the right of the play structure, and there was a crack on the PVC near the walkway near classroom B with a sharp edge. Also, The PVC along the fence which separates the Toddler playground was observed to not be covered on the left and on the back side there was a small gap.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards. The green hose was removed from the toddler playground during the visit. The director will put in an emergency work order tonight to have the repairs made.

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2026

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.15(2)(f) - Discussed regarding ensuring to follow the chop, look, listen information regarding the size of the food serve for the toddlers in classroom D.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment
Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Comment
The vehicle tag number ATS 9845 and PHC 2552 were in the shop for the annual inspections and not on site during the visit. There was no transportation conducted since May 2026.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment
Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 16 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 12**

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/12/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/25/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/09/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/12/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 6 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/11/2026 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/26/2015

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 8 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 9 Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2026 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 10 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 11 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/10/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 13 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/11/2026 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.
-Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10-year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the childcare industry.
-Please ensure that all staff, volunteers, independent contractors, substitutes, therapists, etc…has their records check electronically ported to the center's list in KOALA before being present at the facility.
-Please ensure that records checks are redone if there is a six-month (180 calendar days) break in service from the childcare industry.
-Please also ensure that satisfactory records checks are updated before the expiration date.
-Ensure that all therapists and other independent contractors have an updated records check on file, before being present at the center or home or ensure that the individual is supervised at all times by a staff member who has a comprehensive records check if they do not have a records check on file.
-Please ensure that staff with a national background check is always present with a staff member who has a comprehensive background check. Staff should never be by themselves.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR) **Met**

Comment

Director provided three files for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #6, hired on June 11, 2026 and staff #13, hired on June 1, 2026, and staff #13, hired on June 11, 2026, did not have evidence of CPR and First Aid completed within the required 45 days. There were no certificates available.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection. The director stated that there is a CPR and First Aid class scheduled for August 8, 2026.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on a review of records that the following staff did not have evidence of current CPR and First Aid:
-Staff #1 hired on March 19, 2024
-Staff #2, hired on September 25, 2025
-Staff #3, hired on May 7, 2024
-Staff #4, hired April 9, 2024
-Staff #5, hired on December 12, 2023
-Staff #7, hired on October 26, 2015
-Staff #8, hired on May 7, 2024
-Staff #10, hired on August 8, 2023

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present. The director stated that there is a class scheduled for August 8, 2026.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. requires the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices. It was determined based on a review of records that the following staff did not have evidence of the required two hours of language and literacy training on file:
-Staff #1, hired on March 19, 2024
-Staff #3, hired on May 7, 2024
-Staff #4, hired on April 9, 2024
-Staff #12, hired on May 13, 2019
-Staff #14, hired on September 10, 2024

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year to include a least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2026

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**

Correction Deadline: 4/20/2026

Corrected on 8/4/2026
.32(4) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The appropriate ratios were observed throughout the center.

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

Comment
Adequate supervision observed on this date. Discussed the supervision rule during mealtimes which states: 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.