



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: 6/1/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:10 AM **Departure:** 11:05 AM

CCLC-32817

Montessori Scholars

13100 Morris Road Milton, GA 30004 Fulton County
 (770) 754-0777 montessorischolars1@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

LaToya Longshore

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latoya.longshore@decal.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. 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.
06/01/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/08/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/09/2022	Licensing Study	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	1R	Infants	2	4	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Feeding
Main	2R	One Year Olds	1	2	C	16	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	3R	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	2	C	30	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	4R	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	9	C	31	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	5R	Two Year Olds	3	10	C	29	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	6R		0	0	C	31	C	NA	NA	
Main	7R		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 169					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 27					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Infants	15	C
Main	Older	67	C
Main	Toddlers	21	C

Comments

A Licensing study was conducted on June 1, 2023 and a follow up to previous citations. A designated staff person in charge was not present at the center on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/01/2023

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

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

David Shohooki, Program Official

Date

LaToya Longshore, Regional Consultant

Date



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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

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

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) 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, Classroom 1R was observed with an unlocked cabinet under the changing area that contained clorox wipes and trash bags.

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.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

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

Technical Assistance

Discussed with the program that the playground must be kept clean and ensure routine maintenance is scheduled.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures. There was no designated person in charge to provide medication documentation on this visit.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.22 requires the Center to permit the custodial Parent(s) of the child access to all child care areas of the Center at any time the child is in attendance. The custodial Parent(s) shall make his or her presence known to Center Staff prior to removing the child from the Center. It was determined based on observation, staff had a posted note not allowing parents access to the center. Parents are only allowed outside the front door.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will permit unlimited parental access.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Met****Comment**

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

Discussed reporting requirements.

Safety

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with provider via email. During site visit, there was no designated person in charge on site. Paperwork was not observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2022

Corrected on 6/1/2023

Previous citation corrected. Safe Sleep requirements were followed on this date.

Staff Records**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(b) requires the Center to ensure that every Director has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Director has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a records check, staff # 46 and staff #47 do not have satisfactory Comprehensive Records check on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will audit staff list to ensure that the Director has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Director has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will routinely audit staff list to ensure the Comprehensive Records Check rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on observation, an independent contractor #50 was present at the center without the most recently issued determination letter ported electronically.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will keep a staff list and routinely check to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will audit staff list to ensure Comprehensive Records Ccheck rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

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

Staff list of current employees was not provide to Consultant on this date due to no designated staff person in charge at the center during site visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records**Met****Comment**

Consultant did not have access to staff records on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Comment**

Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(1)(a) requires the Center to have a Director who is responsible for the supervision, operation and maintenance of the Center. The Director must be on the Center's premises. If the Director is absent from the Center at any time during the hours of the Center's operation, there shall be an officially designated person on the Center site to assume responsibility for the operation of the Center, and this person shall have full access to all records required to be maintained under these rules. It was determined based on observation, during center visit there was no designated staff person in charge that was present to provide consultant full access to all files.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure a director, responsible for the supervision, operation and maintenance of the Center is on the premises. during operating hours. The Center will officially designate a person to assume responsibility for the operation of the Center when the director is not present who has full access to all records.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

Recited on 6/1/2023

Staffing and Supervision

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.