



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: 10/16/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:40 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-54386

Montessori In Town

1192 Arkwright Pl SE Atlanta, GA 30317 DeKalb County
(404) 784-1038 augusta@montessoriantown.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

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Joint with: Maryn Accord

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.
10/16/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/19/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/19/2022	Monitoring Visit	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 Two	Classroom G	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	19	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 23			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Main	A - 6 yr - 12 yr		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use, Centers
Main	B - 3yr - 6yr	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	3	18	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C - 3 yr - 6 yr	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	9	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D - 14 mths- 2 yrs	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Four Year Olds	3	10	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E- 14 mths - 2 yrs	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	9	C	13	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	F- 3 yrs- 6 yrs	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	3	21	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 123			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - 2 yr - 12 yr	13	C
Main	Playground B - 2 yrs- 12 yrs	30	C
Main	Playground C - 2 yrs - 12 yrs	29	C
Main	Playground D - 14 mths - 2 yrs	20	C
Main	Playground E - 3 yr - 6 yr	3	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	8	13	29	27	0	26

Comments

An on-site inspection was conducted on October 16, 2024 with the Director Augusta McDonald. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/16/2024

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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.

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)

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:

Classroom B

- Insect repellent and sunblock hanging in the tan bags near the left window accessible to children in care.
- Diaper wipes on the color table accessible to children in care.

Classroom F

- Diaper wipes stored on the top of the shelf where utensil are stored.

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: 10/16/2024

Recited on 10/16/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(17) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that the Center premises must be free of plants and shrubs which are poisonous or hazardous. The Consultant discussed with the Director that poisonous plants must be kept inaccessible to children in care.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2024

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

591-1-1-.26(6) - The Consultant discussed with the Director replacing the rusted swing chains on playground C. The Consultant discussed with the Director 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.

Correction Deadline: 10/26/2024

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 that approximately two inches of resilient surface was observed around and under the swings on playground C when six inches 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: 10/30/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Director replacing the torn white tarp on the back fence and spray painting the exposed root on the tree on playground D. The Consultant discussed that 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.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2024

Food Service

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

591-1-1-.15(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director monitoring the refrigerator temperature in classroom E. The Consultant discussed that the temperature in the refrigerator must be forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. O

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Met

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Comment

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

Met

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2024

Corrected on 10/16/2024

.09(1)(a) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed criminal records checks complete.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2024

Corrected on 10/16/2024

.09(1)(c) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed criminal records checks complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR

Met

Comment

Complete first aid kit observed in center.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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 a child was observed to walk into classroom B without adult supervision. It was further determined based on observation that a student was observed to walk out of classroom B onto playground B without adult supervision. It was also determined based on observation that a child was observed outside of classroom G in the outdoor work space without adult supervision.

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: 10/16/2024