



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: 3/6/2023 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 9:15 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-51707

AJW Montessori Learning Center 2.0

911 Dutchtown Road Savannah, GA 31419 Chatham County
(912) 925-4566 ajwmontessori@gmail.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Kimberly Stoy

Phone: (678) 747-6836

Fax: (706) 314-7859

kimberly.stoy@dec.al.gov

Joint with: Sarah Benton

Quality Rated: ★

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.
03/06/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/30/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/03/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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	A		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main	B	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C	PreK	1	12	C	22	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	D		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	E	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Outside
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations			
Total # Children this Date: 30		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	13	C
Main	B	82	C

Comments

This was the second visit of the fiscal year.

Program does not provide swimming or medication.

Program is currently a one star Quality Rated program.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/06/2023

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

Sonte' Davis, Program Official

Date

Kimberly Stoy, Consultant

Date

Sarah Benton, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 3/6/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

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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.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

One or more parameters were not specified for the subreport, 'Subreport5', located at:
myKoalaPDFCreationConsole-Reports-RDLC-ChildMissingRequirements.rdlc

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.06(1) - Discussed with the Director about ensuring the two toilets in the school age room are in working use.

Correction Deadline: 4/5/2023

591-1-1.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met on this date.

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 cabinet in the restroom in Room E was unlocked with laundry detergent pods accessible to children.

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: 3/6/2023

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

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that there was a 4" gap on the toddler playground on the front fence. There was also a 5" gap in the back left corner on the large playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 3/6/2023

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 that the following hazards were accessible to children:

- * the play kitchen on the toddler playground was broken exposing sharp edges
- * the multicolored slide on the toddler playground had cracked edges on two sides
- * that two of two swing chains on the large playground were rusty
- * the door leading to the preschool bathroom had a rotten door frame leaving sharp edges
- * the toy storage bins on the large playground were cracked exposing sharp edges
- * the water fountain on the large playground had a torn plastic bag over it
- * the basketball goal on the large playground needed to be weighted down
- * there were mops left to dry on the right side accessible to children
- * there was chipping paint and rust on the green poles on the large playground in the back that hold up the shade

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. The program will remove broken equipment and repair the hazards.

Correction Deadline: 3/16/2023

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 the following playground hazards:

- * the toddler playground had exposed plastic tarp under the resilient surfacing which presented a tripping hazard and
- * the large playground had thorny vines on the fence in the back left corner
- * there was an exposed metal bar at the top of the fence on the right hand side where two fence panels connect

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.

Correction Deadline: 3/6/2023

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Evaluated****Comment**

There were no diapered children enrolled in the program on this date. Proper diaper facilities were observed with warm running water and proper ventilation.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on observation that a fire drill was not completed in February 2023.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 3/11/2023

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**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-30(4) - Discussed with Director about ensuring cots are covered while not in use.

Correction Deadline: 3/6/2023

Staff Records

One or more parameters were not specified for the subreport, 'StaffMissingRequirements', located at:
myKoalaPDFCreationConsole Reports RDI C StaffMissingRequirements.rdlc

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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