



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: 10/13/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:50 AM

Departure: 4:40 PM

CCLC-52500

International Montessori School Auburn

33 Hills Shop Road Auburn, GA 30011 Barrow County
 (770) 963-3052 zaki@imontessoriacademy.com

Regional Consultant

Lynn Schnitzer

Phone: (678) 717-5720

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lynn.schnitzer@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.
10/13/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/23/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/09/2021	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
2	A (R) - 3's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	18	C	32	C	NA	NA	Outside
2	B (L)- 3's		0	0	C	37	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 69			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
3	1st Right - Infants	Infants and One Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	3	C	5	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Diapering, Floor Play
3	2nd Right Room - Infants - Two-Year-Olds	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 17			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 29			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 86			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
2	Playground A	369	C
3	Building 3 - Back Playground	46	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a licensing study and to follow up from the previous visit conducted on March 23, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/13/2022

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!

Carina Aulbert, Program Official

Date

Lynn Schnitzer, 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

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)

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers,.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 4 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
 .08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing

Child # 5 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
 .08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records five of five children's records did not have parent work addresses, two of five records did not contain parent work numbers and one record did not contain the name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 10/17/2022**Recited on 10/13/2022****Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1)(b) requires Center Staff to maintain a file for each child that includes parental authorizations, including, but not limited to, written authorization for the Center to obtain emergency medical care for the child when the Parent is not available. It was determined based on review of records that one of five children's files did not contain written authorization for the Center to obtain emergency medical care for the child when the Parent is not available.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and follow a system to place and maintain all types of parental authorizations in these files.

Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022**Facility****591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06 - Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Met**

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(13) - Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children, such as, but not limited to:

- adult office supplies, such as white out, scissors, permanent markers
- cleaning tools, such as mops, brooms, plungers
- hygiene supplies, such as wipes, hand sanitizer
- tripping or entanglement hazards such as loose cords

Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the electric outlet in the butterfly house was not covered on Playground A. Further, the the outlet by the sink in the bathroom on Playground A was not covered.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 hole measuring approximately five and a half inches under the fence behind the sandbox on Playground A.

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: 10/13/2022

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 lattice under the porch on the back playground and under the butterfly house on Playground A had broken pieces. The back playground contained a broken ceramic pot. Further, the stage contained two splintered boards on Playground A.

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.

Correction Deadline: 10/23/2022

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 the fall zones surrounding the saucer swing on playground A contained approximately one inch of resilient surface. Further observation of playground A revealed that the fall zones surrounding the green monkey bars and the area directly beneath the swings had zero resilient surfacing. Approximately six inches of resilient surface was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center currently has mulch on Playground A that is to be distributed beneath the playground equipment.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2022

Recited on 10/13/2022

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

591-1-1-.15 - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that feeding plans are updated every three months.

Comment

Center does not provide meals. Children bring meals from home.

Comment

Consultant observed that bottles were covered and fully labeled with child's full name as required.

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)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that a child did not wash hands after touching their private area in the 2nd right room in building 3.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.20 - Consultant discussed proper medication documentation and procedures with the director on this date.

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 review of records that did not have evidence of fire drills conducted during April 2022, May 2022, June 2022, and July 2022 on file.

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: 10/18/2022

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

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

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)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that one of five cribs had a gap between the mattress and the crib.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps. The center will discontinue using the crib.

Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022**Correction Deadline: 3/23/2022****Corrected on 10/13/2022**

.30(1)(a)3 - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Consultant observed crib sheets to be tight-fitting.

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided four files for employees hired since last visit March 23, 2022.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Not Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center..

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 member #1, date of hire July 29, 2019, and staff #4, date of hire, January 27, 2020, did not have evidence of a current first aid and CPR training card on file.

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: 10/17/2022**Recited on 10/13/2022****591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task. It was determined based on observation that staff #5, date of hire July 28, 2022, and staff #12, date of hire August 23, 2022, did not have evidence of initial center orientation on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and provide orientation for all new Staff prior to their staff's assignment to children or task.

Correction Deadline: 10/13/2022**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 that staff #3, date of hire January 13, 2022, and staff #10, date of hire April 22, 2022, did not have evidence of health and safety orientation training on file.

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: 11/12/2022

Finding

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of records that staff #4, date of hire January 27, 2020, and staff #7, date of hire January 1, 2019, did not have evidence of the required ten (10) clock hours of training for the year 2021 on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2022

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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.