



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: 9/2/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 2:35 PM **Departure:** 5:30 PM

CCLC-65978
Pinnacle Montessori of Cumming
 4415 Bethelview Rd Cumming, GA 30040 Forsyth County
 (678) 771-5835 owners.cumming@pinnaclemontessori.com

Regional Consultant
 Francine Arnone
 Phone: (770) 357-4919
 Fax: (770) 357-4918
 francine.arnone@dec.al.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.
09/02/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/17/2025	Initial 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 Building	Room A-3-6 1st R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	17	C	23	C	Centers
Main Building	Room B-Infants	Infants	2	4	C	17	C	NA	NA	Feeding
Main Building	Room C-12-18 mths-3rd R	One Year Olds	1	2	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main Building	Room D-Toddlers	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	Room E-2/3 years old	Two Year Olds	2	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main Building	Room F-2/3 year olds		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	Room G-3-6 year olds	Three Year Olds	1	1	C	20	C	27	C	Free Play
Main Building	Room H-3-6 year olds		0	0	C	20	C	27	C	
Main Building	Room J-Middle common Area	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	0	NC	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 147					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 216					
Total # Children this Date: 36					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 216					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main Building	1st L-Playground A	15	C

Main Building	Middle Playground B	12	C
Main Building	Playground C-1st R	44	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	19	34	37	8	0	0

Comments

A copy of this report was provided on this date.

The Consultant discussed the following:

- Effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.
- Updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.
- Ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.
- Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.
- All Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.
- Effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.
- A new Child Care Weather Watch Chart is available on the KOALA website. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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



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(Findings Report)

Date: 9/2/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 2:35 PM **Departure:** 5:30 PM

CCLC-65978

Pinnacle Montessori of Cumming

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Regional Consultant

Francine Arnone

Phone: (770) 357-4919

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francine.arnone@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a MV:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 23

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/17/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 13

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/12/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 19

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**Met****Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility**Records Reviewed: 23****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/17/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 13

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/12/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 19

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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)**Met****Comment**

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Health and Hygiene

Staff # 4	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/17/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 13	Not Met
Date of Hire: 09/02/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	
Staff # 17	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/12/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 19	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/12/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 21	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/08/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

Staff # 4	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/17/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 13	Not Met

Records Reviewed: 23**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Date of Hire: 09/02/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/12/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 19

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Records Reviewed: 23****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/17/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 13

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/12/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 19	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/12/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 21	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/08/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

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

Staff # 4	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/17/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 13	Not Met
Date of Hire: 09/02/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	
Staff # 17	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/12/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 19	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/12/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 21	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/08/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

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 review of the records that staff #22, hired on September 2, 2025 was present in a classroom with no children present without a ported Satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file. Staff was observed to leave the premises immediately.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will monitor 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 monitor weekly to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2025

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

Met

Comment

Director provided 11 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

Records Reviewed: 23

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/17/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 13

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/02/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/12/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

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.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 19

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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**

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