



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: 8/7/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 8:40 AM **Departure:** 2:50 PM

CCLC-35493

Montessori Academy at Sharon Springs

2830 Old Atlanta Road Cumming, GA 30041 Forsyth County
(770) 205-6277 mdorsey@montessoriga.com

Regional Consultant

Amanda Schofield

Phone: (404) 463-3585

Fax:

amanda.schofield@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.
08/07/2024	Monitoring Visit	Support	
02/07/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/27/2023	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
Main	A 1st Left Blue	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	18	C	30	C	NA	NA	Centers,Circle Time
Main	B 2nd Left Green	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	19	C	30	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Centers
Main	C 3rd Left Mint	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	15	C	30	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D 1st right Daisy	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	12	C	31	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E 2nd Right Tulip	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	11	C	30	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Centers
Main	F 3rd Rt Yellow	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	20	C	30	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 181			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 95			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 181							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG Front Rt Elementary	13	C
Main	PG Rear	165	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit. Staff files and criminal records checks were reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/07/2024

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.decgal.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@decgal.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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Consultant observed a variety of equipment and toys throughout the center.

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

N/A

Comment

Per director the 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)

Technical Assistance

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.25(13) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that all hazardous items and/or equipment (i.e., bleach, brooms, diaper wipes, etc.) are stored in a locked cabinet and/or container in accessible to children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2024

591-1-1.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

Consultant observed playground to be clean and in good repair.

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)	Met
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Comment

Consultant observed proper hand washing throughout the center on this date.

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

Per director center currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Consultant observed a positive staff child interaction on this date.

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

591-1-1-.13(1)- The citation is deferred. Center has not participated in any field trips since last visit conducted on February 7, 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add any missing items to the field trip notice and train Center Staff to complete all of the information on the correct form, and will have a system to ensure parents are notified in advance and to monitor usage of the field trip notice.

Correction Deadline: 2/7/2024

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	N/A
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Comment

Per director the center does not provide routine transportation.

	Sleeping & Resting Equipment
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591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)	Met
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Comment

Consultant observed cots labeled for individual use.

	Staff Records
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591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)	Not Met
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Comment

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit conducted on February 7, 2024. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of records that staff # 34 rehired on January 6, 2023, did not have evidence of a satisfactory comprehensive record check electronically. Staff member was observed to have an application submitted online August 5, 2024. Staff were observed entering the third classroom on the left. The Director stated the staff just clocked in to work. Consultant observed staff leaving the premises immediately.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as 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 ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee 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 Employee 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 review of records that staff # 34 rehired on January 6, 2023, did not have evidence of a satisfactory comprehensive record check electronically. Staff member was observed to have an application submitted online August 5, 2024. Staff were observed entering the third classroom on the left. The Director stated the staff just clocked in to work. Consultant observed staff leaving the premises immediately.

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Correction Deadline: 8/7/2024

Recited on 8/7/2024

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 that staff member # 34, rehire date January 6, 2023 did not have a orientation on file to reflect staff rehire date. Previous date of employment was dated July 20, 2019 until July 2022..

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: 8/7/2024

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2024

Corrected on 8/7/2024

.33(3) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected. Consultant observed staff to have Health and Safety orientation on file on this date.

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

Consultant observed staff providing direct and active supervision on this date.