



**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:** Licensing Study

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

**CCLC-32723**

**Montessori Kids Academy**

3034 Old Atlanta Road Cumming, GA 30041 Forsyth County  
(678) 208-0774 info@montessoricumming.com

Regional Consultant

Francine Arnone

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**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09/02/2025                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 04/08/2025                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 09/12/2024                  | 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                            | 100-Cassatt                 | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds                       | 2                               | 13       | C    | 22                                                      | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time         |
| Main                            | 200-Cezanne                 | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 2                               | 13       | C    | 25                                                      | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers             |
| Main                            | 300-Van Gogh                | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds                       | 2                               | 10       | C    | 25                                                      | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers             |
| Main                            | 400-Dali                    | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 3                               | 12       | C    | 25                                                      | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers             |
| Main                            | 500-Renoir                  | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 2                               | 13       | C    | 24                                                      | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers             |
| Main                            | 600-Michelangelo (Upstairs) | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 2                               | 8        | C    | 24                                                      | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers             |
| Main                            | 700-Monet (upstairs)        | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 2                               | 17       | C    | 25                                                      | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers             |
| Main                            | 800-Renibrandt (upstairs)   |                                                       | 0                               | 0        | C    | 25                                                      | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use          |
| Main                            | 900-Da Vinci (Upstairs)     | Six Year Olds and Over                                | 2                               | 12       | C    | 25                                                      | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers,Circle Time |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 204 |                             |                                                       | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0   |          |      | Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations |              |            |              |                     |
| Total # Children this Date: 98  |                             |                                                       | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 204 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0                           |              |            |              |                     |

| Building | Playground             | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | A Infant PG            | 8                    | C                     |
| Main     | B Preschool PG         | 20                   | C                     |
| Main     | C 6-9 years PG         | 15                   | C                     |
| Main     | D Playground Open Area | 8                    | C                     |
| Main     | E School Age PG        | 17                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 0                 | 8       | 16      | 32      | 26      | 18                 | 15                |

#### 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.

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#### 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](http://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.

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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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



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**(Findings Report)**

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Same

The following information is associated with a LS:

**Activities and Equipment**

**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.

**Children's Records**

**591-1-1-08 Children's Records**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on review of the records that the Center does not document the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will maintain arrival and departure records as required, will ensure the documentation includes all of the required information, and will provide the records to the Department when requested.

**Correction Deadline: 9/2/2025**

**Facility**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center on this date.

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**Comment**

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

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

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

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(2)(r) - New - Ensure to update 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:

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**Correction Deadline: 9/7/2025**

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

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**Safety**

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

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the date and time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on review of the records that a field trip on June 5, 2025 to Great Harvest Bread Company located at 10305 Medlock Bridge Road, Johns' Creek GA did not have the time noted when the children loaded into and off of the bus when returning to the Center.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that each date and time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025**

**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.

**Comment**

Director provided 4 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****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.