



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 4/5/2022      **VisitType:** Licensing Study      **Arrival:** 9:20 AM      **Departure:** 10:40 AM

**CCLC-39353**

**Explorers Montessori Coastal Cooperative (EMCC)**

51 Wilmington Island Road Savannah, GA 31410 Chatham County  
 (912) 712-0553 info@explorersmontessori.org

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407

Fax: (706) 806-0406

stacey.foston@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                  |               | <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. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 04/05/2022                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/18/2021                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02/09/2021                         | 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                           | A (Left)  | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2     | 10       | C                             | 12         | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning, Out side |
| Main                           | B (Right) | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds                      | 3     | 8        | C                             | 12         | C            | NA         | NA           | Story, Centers          |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 24 |           |                                                      |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                         |
| Total # Children this Date: 18 |           |                                                      |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                         |

| Building | Playground   | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground A | 29                   | C                     |
| Main     | Playground B | 14                   | C                     |

**Comments**

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/05/2022

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



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

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](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.

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)

Tandy Krajec, Program Official

Date

Stacey Foston, 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-.03 Activities**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.03(2) - Discussed with staff to ensure lesson plans are available for all classrooms.

**Correction Deadline: 4/5/2022**

**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

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Child # 1 | Met |
| Child # 2 | Met |
| Child # 3 | Met |
| Child # 4 | Met |
| Child # 5 | Met |

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**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 that one of the five records reviewed did not have 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. Also the name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached was missing on the same child's enrollment form.

**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: 5/2/2022**

**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)**

Met

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Met

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute. Also add mulch around the fall zones of the small arch climber on playground B.

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

Met

**Comment**

The center does not serve meals. The children bring their meals from home. The center monitors the children meals for to ensure they are compliant with USDA requirements. The center also has food items available to supplement the children meals if they do not have all the USDA requirements.

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**

N/A

**Comment**

No kitchen on site.

**Health and Hygiene**

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|                                                        |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Hand washing requirements for diapering and potty training discussed.

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|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

|               |
|---------------|
| <b>Safety</b> |
|---------------|

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|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.05 Animals</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

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|                                                               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

There are no infants enrolled in this program. Discussed covering the cots in room B to make them inaccessible to the children.

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| <b>Records Reviewed: 13</b> |
|-----------------------------|

|                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------|

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Staff # 1 | Met |
|-----------|-----|

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Staff # 2 | Met |
|-----------|-----|

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Staff # 3 | Met |
|-----------|-----|

Date of Hire: 10/22/2015

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Staff # 4 | Met |
|-----------|-----|

Date of Hire: 10/01/2021

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Staff # 5 | Met |
|-----------|-----|

**Records Reviewed: 13**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Date of Hire: 02/07/2022

Staff # 6 Met

Staff # 7 Met

Staff # 8 Met

Staff # 9 Met

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2020

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 01/21/2022

Staff # 12 Met

Staff # 13 Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR** Met

**Comment**

Complete first aid kit observed in the center.

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training** Met

**Comment**

Observed documentation of required staff training for the year 2021.

**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.