



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: 10/23/2023 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:15 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-37849

Tomorrow's Hope Montessori School

305 Peachtree Industrial Blvd Suwanee, GA 30024 Gwinnett County
 (678) 546-0704 admin@tomorrowshopemontessori.com

Regional Consultant

Leena Mitchell

Phone: (706) 433-7111

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leena.mitchell@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.
10/23/2023	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
09/21/2023	MV POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
07/18/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Deficient	

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Building 2	Primary/ elementary	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	20	C	23	C	NA	NA	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 23			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main	1L Multipurpose Room	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	15	C	30	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	4L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	20	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	4R	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	14	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Diapering
Main	A- 2L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	19	C	22	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	B- 3L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	19	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	C- 3R	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	14	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D- 2R	One Year Olds	2	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	E- 1R	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	19	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 175			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Right Side	51	C
Main	B - Left Side	69	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to follow up on previous citations.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/23/2023

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.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!

Hira Alley, Program Official

Date

Leena Mitchell, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation & Follow Up:

Staff Records

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

Not Met

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 member #35 was hired on October 23, 2023 and did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site prior to working with children. Staff member was observed in the 4R classroom with children present. An application was submitted to the department prior to the consultant leaving the facility.

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: 10/23/2023

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 review of records that staff member #35 was hired on October 23, 2023 and had a satisfactory comprehensive record check determination on July 18, 2022 which was completed more than 12 months for the hire date of October 23, 2023. A one-day letter and video affidavit was given to the provider on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will 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. 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: 10/23/2023

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 records that staff member #34 had a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that was within the 12 month portability period, but had not been electronically ported as required. Staff member #34 was observed present with approximately 40 children on the playground and was providing therapy to one student while engaging with other children on this date. Consultant assisted provider in porting the therapist before ending the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 10/23/2023

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2023

Corrected on 10/23/2023

.32(7) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed adequate supervision on this date. Consultant discussed with staff to ensure that staff members are attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arms length away from children 36-months of age and younger.