



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: 1/19/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:35 AM

Departure: 2:45 PM

CCLC-54386

Montessori In Town

1192 Arkwright Pl SE Atlanta, GA 30317 DeKalb County
(404) 784-1038 augusta@montessorintown.com

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

Phone: (770) 357-7016

Fax: (770) 357-7015

cassandra.jakes-beasley@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.
01/19/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/19/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/12/2021	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
Building Two	Classroom G	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	3	18	C	23	C	NA	NA	Outside
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 23		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Main	A - 6 yr - 12 yr		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B - 3yr - 6yr	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	3	19	C	25	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C - 3 yr - 6 yr	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	3	17	C	26	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D - 14 mths- 2 yrs	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	11	C	17	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	E- 14 mths - 2 yrs	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	9	C	13	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	F- 3 yrs- 6 yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	3	21	C	26	C	NA	NA	Outside
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 123		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - 2 yr - 12 yr	13	C
Main	Playground B - 2 yrs- 12 yrs	30	C
Main	Playground C - 2 yrs - 12 yrs	29	C
Main	Playground D - 14 mths - 2 yrs	20	C
Main	Playground E - 3 yr - 6 yr	3	C

Comments

A Licensing Study was conducted on January 19, 2024. Backgrounds checks were reviewed. The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the visit report was given to the Assistant Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/19/2024

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.decga.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!

Augusta McDonald, Program Official

Date

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley, Regional 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-.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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2022

Corrected on 1/19/2024

.08(1) - Previous citation corrected in that children files reviewed had the address of the person to whom the child could be released.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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)**Not Met****Comment**

Discussed potential poisonous plants in the classroom.

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2022

Corrected on 1/19/2024

.25(12) - Previous citation corrected in that no cooling equipment was accessible to children.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation in classroom B, one child's personal hand soap and lotion was observed on the sink, accessible to children with a warning label "to keep out of reach of children". In classroom C there were several unlocked cabinet drawers with, staples, stapler remover, tools, nails and thumb tacks.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2024

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface over the exposed tree roots.

Comment

Please ensure that all outdoor equipment is in good condition.

Health and Hygiene

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

No diapered children enrolled in the program.

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

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Met****Comment**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

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

Director provided ten file(s) for employees hired 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 observation that a staff member in training, starting on January 2, 2024 had not submit Fingerprints to the Department from an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The staff member was not on the premises on the day of the visit and was scheduled to begin working full time on January 23, 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2024

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 a staff member did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while children were present for care as required.

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: 1/19/2024

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

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.

Correction Deadline: 10/19/2022

Corrected on 1/19/2024

.33(3) - Previous citation corrected in that the Health and Safety Training was on file for all new staff members.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.