



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: 2/10/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 11:10 AM

CCLC-35301

Excellent Montessori

1828 Stephenson Road Lithonia, GA 30058 DeKalb County
 (678) 526-0160 excellentmontessori@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant

Christina Jennings

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Mailing Address

1828 STEPHENSON ROAD
 Lithonia, GA 30058

Quality Rated: ★

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.
02/10/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/19/2022	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
11/10/2022	Complaint Closure	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-Infants		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Main	B- Toddler C		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	C-Elem. A/AS	Six Year Olds and Over	1	8	C	22	C	NA	NA	Homework
Main	D-Elem. D/AS		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	
Main	F- Primary A	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	6	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	G-Primary A	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	H-Toddler B		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	
Main	I-Toddler A		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	J-Crawlers		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 138					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Centers Request			
Total # Children this Date: 21			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 138			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit.
 Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit.

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 1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Joy Sanders, Program Official

Date

Christina Jennings, Consultant

Date



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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

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

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)

Not Met

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 upon observation the following hazards were accessible to children:

Classroom C:

- A spray bottle of CVS Health Isopropyl Alcohol Spray.
- A package of Hoclans Alcohol wipes.

Classroom G:

- A metal fingernail file on the teacher's desk.

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: 2/10/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based upon observation that there was exposed sharp edges of concrete at the base of the fencing pole on the left side of the Playground. It was further determined that there were exposed tree roots causing a potential tripping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) N/A

Comment

No children enrolled who require diapering. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Comment

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

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

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

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

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

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.

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

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.