



**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:** 8/18/2023    **VisitType:** TA Follow Up    **Arrival:** 2:25 PM    **Departure:** 4:05 PM

**CCLC-35960**

**Covered Bridge Montessori School**

488 Hurt Road Smyrna, GA 30082 Cobb County  
(770) 801-8292 Dirsmyrna@cbmscenter.com

**Technical Assistance Unit  
Consultant**

Kristy Turner  
Phone: (470) 373-3232  
Fax:  
kristy.turner@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

488 Hurt Rd. SW  
Smyrna, GA 30082

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
08/18/2023	TA Follow Up	Good Standing
07/06/2023	TA Follow Up	Good Standing
06/01/2023	TA Follow Up	Good Standing

**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.

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Building	Room	Age Group	Max 35 SF.	Max 25 SF.
Main	A left front		30	NA
Main	B left rear		30	NA
Main	C right front		30	NA
Main	D right rear		30	NA
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 120	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0	
Total # Children this Date: 0		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 120	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0	

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy
Main	Playground	172

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a follow up/coaching technical assistance visit on this date. The program ordered Health and Safety approved items. TA consultant reviewed and coached on the playground safety/training. TA consultant emailed the indicator manual and rules and regulations. The program's goals and action steps are in progress until the next visit date. The program will email the completed Core Rules Training certificates before the next visit date. The program scheduled the next follow up technical assistance visit on September 18, 2023.

**Strength Based TA**

Plan of Improvement:

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.decgal.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](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)



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

Kelli Welsh, Program Official

Date

Kristy Turner, Technical Assistance Unit Consultant

Date



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**Purpose:** TA Follow Up

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**Facility**

**Rule: 591-1-1-.26(4) - Fence or Approved Barriers. Playgrounds shall be protected from traffic or other hazards by a four (4) foot or higher secure fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area.**

**S.M.A.R.T Goal: The program will ensure that the playgrounds shall be protected from traffic or other hazards by a four (4) foot or higher secure fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area.**

Step Number	Action Step	Person Responsible	Due Date	Status	Completion Date	Action Taken
1	The program will be cutting down the vegetation that is growing through the fence on the playground.  TA consultant will follow up on next visit date.	Director/Owner/Assistant Director	09/18/2023	In-Progress		

Materials Needed:

Resources Provided:

**Facility**

**Rule: 591-1-1-.26(8) - (8) Fall Zones and Surfacing.** Climbing and swinging equipment shall have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency.

**S.M.A.R.T Goal:** The program will ensure that the climbing and swinging equipment shall have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency.

Step Number	Action Step	Person Responsible	Due Date	Status	Completion Date	Action Taken
1	The program has ordered rubber mulch for the playground.  TA consultant will be following up on next visit date.	Director/Owner/Assistant Director	09/18/2023	In-Progress		

Materials Needed:

Resources Provided:

**Staff Records**

**Rule: 591-1-1-.33(5) - (5) Annual Training.** Every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety, and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules.

**S.M.A.R.T Goal:** The program will ensure that the every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety, and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules.

Step Number	Action Step	Person Responsible	Due Date	Status	Completion Date	Action Taken
1	The program staff are completing the self-paced Core Rules training. The program will be sending the certificates for all staff before final TA visit.	Staff	09/18/2023	In-Progress		

Materials Needed:

Resources Provided:



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**In-Progress -TA Goals and Steps**

**Facility**

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Materials Needed:

Resources Provided:

<b>In-Progress -TA Goals and Steps</b>			
			<b>Facility</b>
<b>Rule: 591-1-1-.26(8) - (8) Fall Zones and Surfacing. Climbing and swinging equipment shall have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency.</b>			
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<b>Step Number</b>	<b>Action Step</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
1	The program has ordered rubber mulch for the playground.  TA consultant will be following up on next visit date.	Director/Owner/Assistant Director	09/18/2023
Materials Needed:			
Resources Provided:			
<b>In-Progress -TA Goals and Steps</b>			
			<b>Staff Records</b>
<b>Rule: 591-1-1-.33(5) - (5) Annual Training. Every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety, and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules.</b>			
<b>S.M.A.R.T Goal: The program will ensure that the every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety, and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules.</b>			
<b>Step Number</b>	<b>Action Step</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
1	The program staff are completing the self-paced Core Rules training. The program will be sending the certificates for all staff before final TA visit.	Staff	09/18/2023
Materials Needed:			
Resources Provided:			

**Completed -TA Goals and Steps****Facility**

**Rule: 591-1-1-.26(6) - (6) Equipment. Playground equipment shall provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children.**

**S.M.A.R.T Goal: The program will ensure that the playground equipment shall provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children.**

Step Number	Action Step	Person Responsible	Due Date	Completion Date	Action Taken
1	<p>The director/owner/assistant director will be ordering outdoor playground equipment if classwallet funds does allow to place on the playground on the next visit date.</p> <p>TA consultant followed up and program is going to spray paint existing playground equipment.</p>	Director/Owner/Assistant Director	08/18/2023	08/18/2023	The program will be ordering outdoor equipment if funds allow it. The program decided to spray paint existing playground equipment.

Materials Needed:

Resources Provided: