



**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:** 6/21/2023    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 12:15 PM    **Departure:** 4:30 PM

**CCLC-37385**

**Atlanta Montessori International School**

1970 Cliff Valley Way Atlanta, GA 30329 DeKalb County  
(404) 325-6777 shevann@amischool.com

**Regional Consultant**

Roslyn Williams

Phone: (770) 357-7020

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roslyn.williams@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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
06/21/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/05/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/26/2022	Incident Investigation by Phone	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
Bld 1	Garden	Five Year Olds	1	7	C	30	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Bld 1	Honeycomb	Infants	2	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap
Bld 1	Rosemary	One Year Olds	3	13	C	30	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play
Bld 1	Tadpoles	Infants	2	7	C	9	C	NA	NA	Nap
Bld 1	Terrance	Three Year Olds	2	26	C	30	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Bld 1	Willow	Four Year Olds	2	14	C	30	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 150					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Bldg II	Butterflies	Two Year Olds	3	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Bldg II	Caterpillars	Infants	2	8	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Bldg II	Lilacs	Two Year Olds	2	5	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Bldg II	Sprouts	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	12	NC	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Bldg II	Sunflowers	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Bldg II	Upper- Magnolia		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 120			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 272			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bld 1	garden	20	C


Bld 1	large	241	C
Bldg II	small	227	C

**Comments**

Visit completed

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/21/2023

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Shevann Hill, Program Official

Date

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Roslyn Williams, Regional 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-.03 Activities**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.03(1) requires the Center to provide a daily planned program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities to promote social, emotional, physical, cognitive, language and literacy growth. Center Staff shall use a variety of teaching methods to accommodate the needs of the children's different learning styles. It was determined based on observation that the lesson plan in the Honeycomb room was dated for April and May 2022.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan a program that includes a variety of developmentally appropriate activities that are provided daily, train Staff to use various teaching methods, and monitor both.

**Correction Deadline: 6/26/2023**

**Recited on 6/21/2023**

**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.

**Facility**

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**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observation that the exhaust fans were not working in the Garden room bathrooms.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

**Correction Deadline: 6/30/2023****Recited on 6/21/2023**

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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**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 on observation that the following items were accessible to children:

Garden-Lysol spray, hand sanitizer, lotion, and dish washing cleaner in an unlocked cabinet under the sink  
Terrance-spray bottle cleaner, Clorox spray and Off mosquito repellent on shelves  
Willow-empty plastic bags in an unlocked drawer  
Sunflower-cleaning products in an unlocked cabinet under the sink  
Lilac-baby wipes in an unlocked cabinet

**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: 6/21/2023****Recited on 6/21/2023****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - Equipment maintenance was discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Evaluated****Comment**

Playground not observed on this date due to inclement weather.

<b>Food Service</b>
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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Correction Deadline: 12/9/2022****Corrected on 6/21/2023**

.18(5) - The previous citation was corrected.

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17 - Potty chair use and procedures were discussed.

**Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that children in the Garden room did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon re-entering the classroom after outside play.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

**Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023****Finding**

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that staff in the Garden room did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon re-entering the classroom after outside play.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

**Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023**

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Not Evaluated****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**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**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on review of records that Staff #1 who worked in the Rosemary room did not have evidence of a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file. A one day letter was left.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will to ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. 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 CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023**

**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)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20;and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that the Staff:child ratio in the Sprouts room was 1:12. The required Staff:child ratio was 1:8.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

**Correction Deadline: 6/21/2023**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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