





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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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 New Deadlines:**

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

Cathy Hartley, Program Official

Date

Laura Johnson, Consultant

Date



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

### Findings Report

**Date:** 4/29/2021    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 1:00 PM    **Departure:** 2:00 PM

**FR-000002153**

**Hartley, Cathy L**

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(478) 233-4523 clhcs@yahoo.com

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Same

**Regional Consultant**

Laura Johnson

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

**290-2-3-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

**Comment**

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

**290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Care is not provided for any infant required to be in a crib at this time.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**290-2-3-.07 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Comment**

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

### Facility

**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

290-2-3-.11(2)(a) - The consultant spoke with the Provider about reviewing and updating the program's Written Emergency Plans.

**Correction Deadline: 5/9/2021**

**Comment**

Home observed complete emergency drills

**Comment**

An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home this date.

**Comment**

Operable smoke detector(s) were observed as required in the home this date.

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**290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

No hazards were observed accessible to the children in care during a virtual visit on this date.

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**290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The grass on the playground appeared to be well maintained. The consultant discussed daily monitoring of the playground and playground equipment to ensure that hazards are not present while children are present for care.

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**Food Service**

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**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.10(3) - Discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s). As soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods, the child shall be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child.

**Correction Deadline: 4/29/2021**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.10(8) - Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/wind pipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

**Correction Deadline: 4/29/2021**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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**290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Hand washing supplies were observed, and hand washing practices were discussed with the Provider on this date.

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**290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Diapering was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Procedures and sanitation regarding proper diapering were discussed with the Provider on this date.

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**290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)**

**N/A**

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

## Licensure

### 290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Six children were observed present in Family Child Care Learning Home this date.

## Safety and Discipline

### 290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

#### Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Provider on this date.

### 290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)

N/A

#### Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

## Staff Records

### 290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)

Met

#### Comment

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

#### Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

### 290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on March 31, 2021.

## Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

### 290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

### 290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.07(17) - Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during meal times and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

**Correction Deadline: 4/29/2021**

#### Comment

The Provider was observed directly supervising and being attentive to the needs of the children.