



**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:** 3/5/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 12:30 PM

**FR-0000520028**

**Stratton, Wanda L.**

507 KATHWOOD DRIVE Elberton, GA 30635 Elbert County  
(706) 283-7033 jeffstratton3@yahoo.com

**Mailing Address**

507 KATHWOOD DRIVE  
ELBERTON, GA 30635

**Regional Consultant**

Kelly Jones

Phone: (770) 357-7062

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kelly.jones@decalf.ga.gov

**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.
03/05/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/03/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/25/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	2	2	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	1	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	4	5	0	1	0
School Age(5+) Years	1	1	0	3	0
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	8	9	0	4	0
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	8				
Children Present: 8		Total Children: 13			
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 4		Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1			

**Comments**

A virtual inspection was conducted on March 5, 2021 with the Provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. An Administrative Review was conducted on March 4, 2021, staff records, children's files, training and background checks were all reviewed. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on February 15, 2021 and was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/05/2021

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/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), 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)

Wanda Stratton, Program Official

Date

Kelly Jones, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 3/5/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 12:30 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions.

**Comment**

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

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Consultant observed nap mats and discussed disinfecting and sanitizing of mats with the provider.

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**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.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 8**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Met

Child # 3

Met

**Records Reviewed: 8**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met
Child # 6	Met
Child # 7	Met
Child # 8	Met

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**290-2-3-.08 Children's Records**

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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**290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Facility**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Emergency Drills-A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit. Consultant discussed with provider to ensure to maintain records as required by the department.

**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**

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The outside area appears clean and well maintained. Consultant discussed monitoring the playground and fence surrounding the playground area for normal wear and tear (i.e. exposed roots, active ant beds, resilient surface levels, entrapment hazards, etc.) with the director on this date.

**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 on this date. Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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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 on this date. Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

**Licensure**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.04(1)(d) requires a person that provides care for more than six children for pay, related or unrelated, as defined in these rules, shall make application to the Department for a license to operate a Child Care Learning Center, except as provided in 290-2-3-.07(15). It was determined based on a review of records that for the month of February the provider has 12 children enrolled four for no compensation and eight for pay. The provider was over ratio by one after school child that arrived outside of the approved two hour window.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Family Child Care Learning Home caring for more than six children shall reduce the number of children in care to six. The Family Child Care Learning Home will submit an application for a Child Care Learning Center and receive a license to operate from the Department before caring for more than six children, related or unrelated, for pay.

**Correction Deadline: 3/5/2021**

**Policies and Procedures**

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**290-2-3-.06 Parental Access**

**Met**

**Comment**

290-2-3-.06 - Parental Access requirements are met per current COVID-19 guidelines.

**Correction Deadline: 3/5/2021**

**Safety and Discipline**

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**290-2-3-.11 Animals**

**Met**

**Comment**

The Family Child Care Learning Home does not keep animals on premises.

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**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 on this date. Staff stated knowledge of appropriate discipline procedures.

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**290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit**

**Met**

**Comment**

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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**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 August 3, 2020.

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete. Consultant reminded the provider to be aware of the upcoming expiration dates.

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**290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR Met****Comment**

Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR.

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR) Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during the virtual walk through on this date. The program is in compliance with the Executive Order issued on February 15, 2021.

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**Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision**

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR) Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.07(15) requires the Home to ensure that the total number of Children not Related to the Provider in the Family Child Care Learning Home, for pay or not for pay, cannot exceed six Children, except that a Provider may care for two additional children who are three years of age or older for two designated one hour periods daily upon approval approved by the Department. It was determined based on a review of records that for the month of February the provider has 12 children enrolled four for no compensation and seven for pay. The provider was over ratio by one after school child that arrived outside of the approved two hour window..

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will reduce the number of unrelated children, both for pay and not for pay, so that the total number of unrelated children in care does not exceed the number of children as specified in these rules.

**Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021**

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**290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR) Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.