



**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:** 3/7/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 3:45 PM    **Departure:** 5:15 PM

**FR-0000780065**

**Whitehead, Sara J.**

189 STAPLERS BRIDGE ROAD Nicholson, GA 30565 Jackson County  
(706) 757-3534 sarajolittlepeople@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Lynn Schnitzer

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lynn.schnitzer@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

189 STAPLERS BRIDGE ROAD  
NICHOLSON, GA 30565

**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.
03/07/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/16/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/17/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

**Ratios/License Capacity**

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

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a licensing study and to follow up from the previous visit conducted on June 16, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/07/2023

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 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

Sara Whitehead, Program Official

Date

Lynn Schnitzer, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 3/7/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 3:45 PM    **Departure:** 5:15 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**

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

**Correction Deadline: 6/16/2022**

**Corrected on 3/7/2023**

**.19(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Provider stated that no items are placed in the "Pack and Plays" with a sleeping child.**

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

**Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

**Children's Records**

One or more parameters were not specified for the subreport, 'Subreport5', located at:  
myKealaPDFCreationConsole.Reports.RDI.C.ChildMissingRequirements.rdlc

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.08(12) - Consultant discussed with provider that related children for pay should have the right side of the affidavit filled out .

**Correction Deadline: 3/7/2023**

**Correction Deadline: 6/16/2022**

**Corrected on 3/7/2023**

**.08(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Consultant observed updated immunization forms for all enrolled children.**

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

Met

**Correction Deadline: 6/16/2022**

**Corrected on 3/7/2023**

**.08(3) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Consultant observed provider to have parental authorization for emergency medical care when the parent is not available.**

**Facility**

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

Not Met

**Correction Deadline: 6/26/2022**

**Corrected on 3/7/2023**

**.11(2)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Consultant observed complete plan for handling emergencies.**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) requires that documentation of drills required by these rules shall be maintained in the Home. The Home shall conduct drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Home shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on review of records that the provider did not have documentation of fire drills conducted in November 2022, December 2022, January 2023, and February 2023.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will develop and implement a plan and schedule for conducting the required drills, completing the documentation, keeping the documentation on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 4/6/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(2)(f) - Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

**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)

Not Met

**Finding**

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) requires that outdoor play areas be kept clean and free of hazards such as exposed sharp corners of concrete or equipment, rust and splinters on equipment, broken glass, open drainage ditches, holes and stagnant water. It was determined based on observation that the outside play area had fallen branches and standing water.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will repair any and all identified outdoor hazards and will monitor playground daily or more often as needed to ensure that the Home's outdoor play area is kept clean and free of hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 3/17/2023**

**Correction Deadline: 6/26/2022**

**Corrected on 3/7/2023**

.13(2)(c) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Per the provider, children are not using the playground equipment.

**Correction Deadline: 6/16/2022**

**Corrected on 3/7/2023**

.13(2)(d) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Consultant observed a four foot fence around the outside play area.

**Food Service**

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

**Comment**

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk 5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk 2 of 5 Components for snack Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers. The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website: DECAL <http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

**290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)** **Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

**Licensure**

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

**Comment**

The consultant observed the provider to care for one unrelated children for pay and three related children not for pay on this date.

**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**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(1)(e) - Please replace/add expired items in first aid kit.

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

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

**Staff Records**

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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

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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**290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR** **Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(8) requires the Home to maintain for the Provider and any Provisional Employee or Employee with direct care responsibilities current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid which have been offered by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and which dealt with emergency care for infants and children. Such training must be completed prior to initial licensure for the Provider and within 90 days from date of hire for Provisional Employees and Employees. The Provider, a Provisional Employee or Employee with current CPR and first aid training must always be on the Home's premises and on any field trip whenever any Child is present. It was determined based on a review of records that the the provider did not have evidence of CPR and first aid training on file.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required CPR and first aid training and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested. The Home will ensure that there is always a Staff person on the Home's premises and on any field trip whenever any Child is present.

**Correction Deadline: 3/24/2023**

**Recited on 3/7/2023**

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(9) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, and any Provisional Employees or and Employees, 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 in the Home by the Provider, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that the provider did not have evidence of ten clock hours of annual training on file for 2022.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required annual training for Staff and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested.

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2023**

**Recited on 3/7/2023**

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.