





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)

Sara Whitehead, Program Official

Date

Ashley Shirah, 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:** 12/22/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 10:30 AM

**Departure:** 11:00 AM

**FR-0000780065**

**Whitehead, Sara J.**

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

**Mailing Address**

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NICHOLSON, GA 30565

**Regional Consultant**

Ashley Shirah

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ashley.shirah@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through SIDS and infant sleeping position was discussed.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through there was no pool observed on the property. Per the provider no swimming activities were provided.

### Facility

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through storage of cleaning supplies and possible hazards were discussed. There were no hazards observed to be accessible to the children this date.

**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**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through the playground area was observed and appeared to be in good repair.

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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 and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Provider on this date. Liquid soap and paper towels were observed accessible in the restroom area.

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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. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date. During the virtual walk through the diapering was observed and the provider displayed proper knowledge of the rules and regulations.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per the provider medication was not dispensed.

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**Licensure**

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

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date.

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**Safety and Discipline**

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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. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Provider on this date.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per the provider there was no routine transportation provided.

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**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 October 15, 2019.

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete for two employees.

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**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 August 15, 2020.

<b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b>
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**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through appropriate ratio were observed.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through adequate supervision was observed.