





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)

Gladis Pate, Program Official

Date

Leena Mitchell, 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:** 9/17/2021    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 1:30 PM    **Departure:** 2:15 PM

**FR-23098**

**Pate, Gladis P**

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(770) 314-1625 childcare4teachers@gmail.com

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**Regional Consultant**

Leena Mitchell

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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 virtual walk through was conducted on this date due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon the virtual walk through, a variety of equipment was observed to be clean, properly secured, and in good repair.

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Finding**

290-2-3-.19(2) requires that a Family Child Care Learning Home shall provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants and one-year-old children when placed for sleep in a safety approved crib or in any other type of equipment approved for infant sleep. Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back unless the Parent has provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back, but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred positions and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant, however swaddling shall not be used unless the Home has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant such as but not limited to crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation that an infant was asleep in a crib covered with a blanket.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will ensure that safe sleep requirements for infants are followed as required.

**Correction Deadline: 9/17/2021**

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

There is no pool on the property

<b>Facility</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****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**

A virtual walk through was conducted on this date due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The home appeared to be clean, well maintained, and safe from hazardous condition upon virtual walk through.

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

The outside area appears clean and well maintained. Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards:

- Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys.
- Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area.
- Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.)
- Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area.
- Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather.
- Fluff and redistribute resilient surface as needed.

<b>Food Service</b>
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**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.10(1) requires that meals and snacks are served, with serving sizes dependent upon the age of the child that meet nutritional guidelines as established by the United States Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program. Meals and snacks shall be varied daily, and additional servings of nutritious food shall be offered to children over and above the required daily minimum, if not contraindicated by special diet. It was determined based on review of records that the menu the provider provided only had two of five components for lunch.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will prepare menus and/or serve foods that meet the USDA guidelines and will offer and serve seconds to children.

**Correction Deadline: 9/17/2021**

**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://decal.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed the following rule with the Provider on this date: 290-2-3-.10(3) requires a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age be obtained from Parent(s). Instructions from the Parent (s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the main child care area and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies.

**Correction Deadline: 9/17/2021**

**Comment**

290-2-3-.10(8) - Discussed new revision as of October 1, 2020, 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/windpipe 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: 9/17/2021**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures for staff and children during virtual visit.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Provider on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

<b>Licensure</b>
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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.

<b>Safety and Discipline</b>
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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. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Provider on this date.

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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<b>Staff Records</b>
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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 on March 21, 2021.

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

290-2-3-.07(17) - Discussed new revision as of October 1, 2020, which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

**Correction Deadline: 9/17/2021**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Proper supervision of children, including being prompt to children's needs, was discussed with the Provider on this date.