



Please refer to the website, <http://www.decal.ga.gov/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@decal.ga.gov.

- 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://decal.ga.gov/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.decal.ga.gov/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov

Adilakshne Ghatti, Program Official

Date

Emma Smith, Consultant

Date



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
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Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Findings Report

Date: 3/11/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 2:00 PM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

FR-35465

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

290-2-3-.12(1) - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed with no enrolled children. The program was not set up at this time. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed with no enrolled children in the program. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

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

N/A

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.

Children's Records

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed and there are no children enrolled in the program. This rule will be evaluated at the next visit.

Facility

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

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed and there are no children enrolled in the program. Discussed emergency drills and emergency preparedness plans with the provider on this date.

Comment

290-2-3-.11(2)(h) - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed and there are no children enrolled in the program. An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher and operable smoke detectors were observed in the home this date.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed and there are no children enrolled in the program. The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

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

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) - 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. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic was discussed during a virtual walk through on this date.

Food Service

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

290-2-3-.10(1) - Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. 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.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.10(1) - 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/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.

Health and Hygiene

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

290-2-3-.11(1) - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed with no enrolled children in the program. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed and there are no children enrolled in the program. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed and there are no children enrolled in the program. This rule was not evaluated on this date.

Licensure

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

Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date.

Safety and Discipline

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed and there are no children enrolled in the program. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

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

Staff Records

290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR.

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 February 15, 2021.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to program closure, staff did not obtain 2020 annual training. Consultant discussed staff obtaining required annual training for 2021. This rule will be evaluated at the next regulatory visit.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed and there are no children enrolled in the program. This rule was not evaluated on this date.

290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)**Not Evaluated****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 mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is currently closed and there are no children enrolled in the program. Proper supervision of children, including being prompt to children's needs, was discussed with the provider on this date.