





Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.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@dec.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.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://dec.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.dec.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@dec.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.ga.gov)

Tammy Ritchie, Program Official

Date

Haley Carwile, 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:** 8/17/2020    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 1:00 PM    **Departure:** 1:30 PM

**FR-46789**

**Ritchie, Tammy O**

18951 Watson Road Metter, GA 30439 Candler County  
(912) 682-8786 ritchie.tammy2013@gmail.com

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Regional Consultant**

Haley Carwile

Phone: (229) 317-9868

Fax: (229) 317-9865

haley.carwile@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.12(5) - 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.

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

Met

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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

Met

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

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

Met

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Met

**Comment**

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

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

Met

**Comment**

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

### Health and Hygiene

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

290-2-3-.11(1) - Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

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

290-2-3-.11(1)(f) - 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)****Not Evaluated****Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

**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.

**Safety and Discipline**

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**290-2-3-.11 Animals****Not Evaluated****Comment**

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

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**290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(3) - 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)****N/A****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 Staff Qualifications(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed staff qualifications and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

## Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2019

Corrected on 8/17/2020

.07(16) - Observed appropriate child staff ratios on this date.

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290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.