





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)

Laleta McClendon, Program Official

Date

April Brown, 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:** 3/22/2021    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 12:15 PM    **Departure:** 2:15 PM

**FR-48810**

**McClendon, Laleta P**

829 Redan Way Locust Grove, GA 30248 Henry County  
(770) 685-5916 laletamcclendon@yahoo.com

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Same

**Regional Consultant**

April Brown

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april.brown@dec.al.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 variety of equipment and toys were observed on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position with the provider; however, there were no infants enrolled on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

**Comment**

Per the provider, the Home does not provide swimming activities at this time. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Facility

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

**Comment**

Home observed to have complete emergency drills as required on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children as required. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Comment**

An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Comment**

Operable smoke detector(s) were observed as required in the home on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Home appears clean and free from hazards on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

**Met**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure the route to the backyard playground area is free from potential hazards as required. Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure the grill was covered prior to children being allowed to play in the enclosed backyard area. The children were asleep during the virtual visit and were not exposed to any hazards as they currently have two playground areas to utilize while in the provider's home. The playground areas and equipment were observed to be clean on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Correction Deadline: 4/1/2021**

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**Food Service**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Consultant 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. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Comment**

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. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Correction Deadline: 3/22/2021**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The provider stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures on this date. Hand washing requirements were discussed with the provider on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures on this date. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the provider on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

Per the provider no medication was currently dispensed at this time. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**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 on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**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)****N/A****Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation at this time. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**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 which was completed on October 6, 2020. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Comment**

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

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

Additional cleaning and sanitizing recommendations 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.

## Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Met

#### Comment

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

Met

#### Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date. Consultant 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. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.