



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.

- 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

Sheri Scott, Program Official

Date

Stacy Whitten, 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: 8/29/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:45 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

FR-49642

Scott, Sheri L

150 Sherwood Drive Athens, GA 30606 Clarke County
(706) 351-9881 ssherri27@yahoo.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Stacy Whitten

Phone: (770) 405-7920
Fax: (404) 478-8021
stacy.whitten@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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

Comment

There is no pool on the property

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 1 Met

Child # 2 Met

Child # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Name Missing-.08(13),Date of Birth Missing-.08(13),Phone Numbers-.08(13),Parents Address-.08(13)

Child # 4 Met

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 6 Met

Child # 7 Met

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.08(1) requires the Home to have a current and updated record for each Child in care and for a period of one (1) year after each Child leaves. Such records shall include: identifying information (Child's name, birth date, Parent's name, home and business addresses, telephone numbers); name, address and telephone number of persons, including Child's physician, to contact in emergencies; and name, address, telephone numbers, relationship to Child and to Parent(s) and other identifying information of person(s) to whom the Child may be released. It was determined based on a review of records that the provider did not have evidence enrollment paperwork for one unrelated child kept not for pay on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will obtain the missing information and maintain the Children's records as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

Finding

290-2-3-.08(2) requires the Home to maintain a file for each Child that includes evidence of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunizations; enrollment in the Home may not continue for more than 30 days without such evidence. It was determined based on a review of records that there was not evidence of an up to date immunization record for one child cared for pay on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will ensure that an immunization record/signed affidavit is on file for each enrolled Child.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

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)

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) requires that outdoor play areas be kept clean and free of hazards such as exposed sharp corners of concrete or equipment, rust and splinters on equipment, broken glass, open drainage ditches, holes and stagnant water. It was determined based on consultant's observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground area:

- The AC unit did not have a barrier around it and was accessible to the children receiving care on this date.
- Tree limbs were hanging over the fence on the back right side and back left side of the fence.
- Broken tree limbs and concrete blocks were observed throughout the grounds of the playground area creating a potential tripping hazard.
- An unlocked shed containing rust, furniture cushions, concrete blocks, and wooden boards were located on the back right side of the playground area.
- A rotting wooden board was sitting on the front right side of the playground area next to the fence.
- Four wooden tree stumps were observed on the grounds creating a potential tripping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The provider stated she plans to use the carport area for outside time once the area is fully enclosed. The consultant discussed placing a barrier around the AC unit to prevent the children from accessing the unit during outside time and remove the broken tree branches and concrete blocks from the playground area with the provider on this date. Consultant also discussed trimming the tree limbs back from the fence to prevent future damage to the fence surrounding the playground area and painting the tree stumps a bright color to prevent a potential tripping hazard with the provider on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019

Recited on 8/29/2019

Finding

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) requires that outside play areas be protected from traffic or other hazards by fencing or other barriers at least four feet in height and approved by the Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children. A fence shall be provided around swimming pools to make them inaccessible when not in use. It was determined based on consultant's observation that the fence on the front left side of the playground measured approximately between three feet one inch and three feet and seven inches when four feet is required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Provider stated she plans to use the carport area for outside play time once she gets it completely enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019

Recited on 8/29/2019

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Comment

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures.

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

Comment

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure

290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.04(1)(d) requires a person that provides care for more than six children for pay, related or unrelated, as defined in the rules, to make application to the Department for a license to operate as a Child Care Learning Center. It was determined based on a review of records and observation, that the provider cared for seven unrelated children on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Family Child Care Learning Home caring for more than six children shall reduce the number of children in care to six. The Family Child Care Learning Home will submit an application for a Child Care Learning Center and receive a license to operate from the Department before caring for more than six children, related or unrelated, for pay.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Animals**Met****Comment**

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

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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

Comment

The provider and/or the home's employee were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.21(1)(c) requires every Employee to have a current and valid satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before residing in the Home if age 17 or older. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that one employee was present at the home without evidence of submitting an application or receiving a final satisfactory comprehensive background check letter on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will review background check rules to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Home. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The provider must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Home will submit an application and fingerprints to the department for all employees and residents of the home, to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.21(1)(k) - Consultant discussed with provider to follow up with the department to have her fingerprint letter ported to her new provider number, after changing locations.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)

Met

Comment

Discussed staff qualifications and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.07(12) requires the Home to ensure that the total number of Children unrelated to the Provider in the Family Child Care Learning Home, for pay or not for pay, cannot exceed six children, except during two designated hours approved by the Department. It was determined based on a review of records that the provider cared for six unrelated children for pay and one unrelated child not for pay on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will reduce the number of unrelated children, both for pay and not for pay, so that the total number of unrelated children in care does not exceed the number of children as specified in these rules.

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2019

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.07(14) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure adequate supervision is maintained at all times when children are playing outside on the playground, and that the provider does not step back inside when the children are outside.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019