





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)

Sheri Scott, Program Official

Date

Kelly Jones, 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:** 10/29/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 6:00 PM

**Departure:** 8:30 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**

Kelly Jones

Phone: (770) 357-7062

Fax: (770) 357-7061

kelly.jones@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions.

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Care is not provided for any infant required to be in a crib

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Met

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

---

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019**

**Corrected on 10/29/2020**

**.08(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant reviewed all unrelated children enrolled to have complete files.**

**Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019**

**Corrected on 10/29/2020**

**.08(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant reviewed children's files and all enrolled children have current immunizations on file.**

---

**290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Facility**

---

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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. Consultant discussed with provider to ensure to maintain records as required by the department.

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**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.

---

**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**

**Correction Deadline: 11/6/2020**

**Corrected on 10/29/2020**

**.13(2)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed the provider to use the carport area as the designated play area for the children instead of the backyard.**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.13(2)(c) requires that climbing and swinging equipment that are not portable have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment, which is adequately maintained by the Home to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the portable play structure measuring 64 inches didn't have a resilient surface under or around the play structure. Consultant discussed with the provider to add foam mats or other resilient surface around and under the play structure.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will ensure that there is an adequate resilient surface under and in the fall zone of climbing and swinging equipment. The Home will inspect equipment and resilient surfacing material regularly and repair or replenish as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 11/6/2020**

**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 provider is no longer using the backyard as the designated play area. Consultant observed the carport as the designated play area was not enclosed at the end of the carport to ensure the children would be contained and free from potential hazards.

**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: 11/4/2020**

**Recited on 10/29/2020**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing was not directly observed during the virtual walk through on this date. Staff stated knowledge of proper hand washing procedures. Children were not present at the time of the visit.

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

**Comment**

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date) A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Diapering was not directly observed during the virtual walk through on this date. Staff stated knowledge of proper 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) Met**

**Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019**

Corrected on 10/29/2020

.04(1)(d) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed five children present on this date and a total of six children enrolled in the program.

<b>Policies and Procedures</b>
--------------------------------

---

**290-2-3-.06 Parental Access**

**Met**

**Comment**

290-2-3-.06 - Parental access requirements are met per current COVID-19 guidelines.

**Correction Deadline: 10/29/2020**

<b>Safety and Discipline</b>
------------------------------

---

**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)**

**Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through on this date. Staff stated knowledge of appropriate discipline procedures.

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

---

**290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit**

**Met**

**Comment**

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. Consultant discussed with provider to ensure to maintain materials and supplies as required by the department.

---

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

<b>Staff Records</b>
----------------------

---

**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 August 29, 2019.

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

**Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019**

Corrected on 10/29/2020

.21(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant reviewed evidence of provider having a current satisfactory comprehensive background check letter on this date. Provider doesn't have staff.

---

**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 the virtual walk through on this date. The program is in compliance with the Executive Order issued on September 30, 2020.

<b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b>
---

---

**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 9/8/2019****Corrected on 10/29/2020**

**.07(12) -The previous citation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed five children present and a total of six children enrolled.**

**Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

---

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.