



**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

**Date:** 10/7/2020    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 9:55 AM    **Departure:** 10:55 AM

**FR-000002886**

**Baxter, Debbie E**

9709 HWY. 334 Nicholson, GA 30565 Jackson County  
(706) 757-3216 DEBBIEBAXTER@WINDSTREAM.NET

**Mailing Address**

9709 HWY. 334  
NICHOLSON, GA 30565

**Regional Consultant**

Ashley Shirah

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ashley.shirah@decals.ga.gov

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
10/07/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/16/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/19/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

**Compliance Zone Designation** - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.

**Good Standing** - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**Support** - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting the rules.

**Deficient** - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	0	0	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	1	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	1	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	1	3	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	1				

Children Present: 1

Total Children: 3

Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3

Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

**Comments**

Background checks were all reviewed on October 7, 2020. A virtual inspection was conducted on October 7, 2020, with the provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection."

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).



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](mailto: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](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

Debbie Baxter, Program Official

Date

Ashley Shirah, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through SIDS and infant sleeping position was discussed. Currently no infants are enrolled in the program.

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

**Met**

**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.

### Facility

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through storage of cleaning supplies and possible hazards were discussed. There were no hazards observed to be accessible to the children 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.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through storage of cleaning supplies and possible hazards were discussed. There were no hazards observed to be accessible to the children this date.

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

290-2-3-.13(2) - The provider stated that the playground area in the yard is not in use at the time. The provider stated that she is having a swing set installed in the backyard. The consultant reminded the provider that the swing set must have a minimum of six inches of resilient surface underneath the fall zones once in operation.

**Comment**

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. The provider is currently using the back deck for outdoor play.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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**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 and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Provider on this date. Liquid soap and paper towels were observed accessible in the restroom area.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Provider on this date. During the virtual walk through the diapering was observed and the provider displayed proper knowledge of the rules and regulations.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per the provider medication was not dispensed.

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**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. The consultant observed one child present during the virtual visit on this date.

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**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)****Met****Comment**

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

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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 September 16, 2019.

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete for three of three staff.

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**290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.07(8) requires the Home to maintain for the Provider and any Provisional Employee or Employee with direct care responsibilities current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid which have been offered by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and which dealt with emergency care for infants and children. Such training must be completed prior to initial licensure for the Provider and within 90 days from date of hire for Provisional Employees and Employees. The Provider, a Provisional Employee or Employee with current CPR and first aid training must always be on the Home's premises and on any field trip the provider did not have evidence of a current first aid and CPR training card on file. It was determined based on a review of citations that the provider was not valid or current and CPR and First Aid.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required CPR and first aid training and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested. The Home will ensure that there is always a Staff person on the Home's premises and on any field trip whenever any Child is present.

**Correction Deadline: 11/13/2020**

**Recited on 10/7/2020**

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**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 August 15, 2020.

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.07(9) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, and any Provisional Employees or and Employees, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department- approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained in the Home by the Provider, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of records the provider completed seven of ten hours of the required annual training for the year 2019.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required annual training for Staff and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested.

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2020**

**Recited on 10/7/2020**

<b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b>
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**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through appropriate ratios were observed.

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

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through adequate supervision was observed.