



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.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)

---

Cheryl Neal, Program Official

Date

---

Kesha McNeal, 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: 8/27/2021 VisitType: Monitoring Visit Arrival: 1:50 PM Departure: 2:50 PM

FR-000005812

Neal, Cheryl J

4982 Owens Mill Drive Stone Mountain, GA 30083 DeKalb County  
(404) 271-9656 ccjneal@yahoo.com

Mailing Address  
Same

Regional Consultant

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672  
Fax: (866) 359-7490  
kesha.mcneal@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.

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.

Comment

There is no pool on the property

Facility

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

Comment

Home observed complete emergency drills

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)** **Met**

**Comment**

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

**Food Service**

---

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

**Comment**

290-2-3-.10(3) - 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.

**Correction Deadline: 8/27/2021**

**Comment**

290-2-3-.10(8) - 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.

**Correction Deadline: 8/27/2021**

**Health and Hygiene**

---

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

---

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

---

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

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

**Licensure**

---

**290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date.

**Comment**

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date.

## Safety and Discipline

### 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.

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

N/A

#### Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

## Staff Records

### 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.

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

Met

#### Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

### 290-2-3-.07 Staff Training

Met

#### Comment

290-2-3-.07(9) - Discussed 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.

**Correction Deadline: 9/26/2021**

## Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Met

#### Comment

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

Met

#### Comment

290-2-3-.07(17) - 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.

**Correction Deadline: 8/27/2021**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.