





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](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)

Miriam Karvonen, Program Official

Date

Malissa Champion, 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:** 2/26/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 8:40 AM

**Departure:** 10:15 AM

**FR-000007542**

**Karvonen, Miriam R**

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.12(1) - Discussed with the provider to add toys and materials to enhance the learning environment.

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.19(2) requires that a Family Child Care Learning Home shall provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants and one-year-old children when placed for sleep in a safety approved crib or in any other type of equipment approved for infant sleep. Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back unless the Parent has provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back, but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred positions and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant, however swaddling shall not be used unless the Home has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant such as but not limited to crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation that five children were in five pack-n-plays with pillows, blankets, toys, and food.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will ensure that safe sleep requirements for infants are followed as required.

**Correction Deadline: 2/26/2019**

**Comment**

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Child # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 2 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 4 Met

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2), Infant Feeding Plan - (.10)(4)

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

**Not Met**

**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 the provider did not have evidence of a current immunization certificate for four children 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: 2/26/2019**

**Facility**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(h) requires at least one UL Approved smoke detector to be on each floor of the Home and such detectors to be maintained in working order. At least one 2-A:10-B:C fire extinguisher shall be kept in the child care area to be located no more than thirty feet from the kitchen. The extinguisher shall be maintained in working order and shall be inaccessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that the home did not have a working smoke detector on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The home provider will ensure that a working smoke detector is on each floor and a working fire extinguisher is available in the child care area as required, and is maintained inaccessible to children.

**Correction Deadline: 3/8/2019**

**Comment**

An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed 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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) - Playground observed to be clean and in good repair. Consultant discussed with provider to monitor the playground area after inclement weather for any standing water (i.e. water collected in sand box, riding toys etc) on this date.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing procedures.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Licensure**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**Safety and Discipline**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.11(1)(n) requires pets in the Home be properly vaccinated in accordance with the requirements of the local county Boards of Health. Unconfined pets shall not be permitted in child care areas when any Child is present except for supervised learning experiences. It was determined based on staff statements that vaccinations were not available for two dogs.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will ensure that all animals are properly vaccinated and that unconfined animals are not allowed in child care areas.

**Correction Deadline: 3/8/2019**

**Recited on 2/26/2019**

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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**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 on November 7, 2018.

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff Training** **Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2018**

**Corrected on 2/26/2019**

**.07(6) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed the provider to have completed the required 10 hours of annual training for the year 2018.**

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**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.

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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.