



**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:** 3/13/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:10 AM

**Departure:** 2:10 PM

**FR-000011496**

**Rakestraw, Shirley A.**

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(770) 787-8920 rakestraw8920@aol.com

**Regional Consultant**

Ashley Cunningham

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Ashley.Cunningham@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

P.O. BOX 563  
OXFORD, GA 30054

**Quality Rated:** ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
03/13/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/14/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/21/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	1	1	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	3	5	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	5	6	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	2	3	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	10	14	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	11				
Children Present: 12 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3					
Total Children: 15 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2					
<b>More than 6 for pay</b> 6 for pay present & no-pay present does not have a notarized no-pay statement					

**Comments**

Emergency preparedness form and updated fire drills was emailed

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/13/2019

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/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)

Shirley Rakestraw, Program Official

Date

Ashley Cunningham, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

#### 290-2-3-.09 Activities

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.09(1) requires the Home to provide a variety of daily activities appropriate for the Childrens' ages and developmental levels. Children with special needs shall be integrated unless contraindicated medically or by parental agreement. Activities shall be planned to include indoor and outdoor play; a balance of quiet and active periods; a balance of supervised free choice and caregiver-directed activities; individual, small group, and large group activities; large muscle activities; small muscle activities; language experiences; arts and crafts; dramatic play; rhythm and music; and nature and science experiences. It was determined based on observation that an after school child was present and the provider did not have any activities for them to do.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will revise the schedule so a variety of appropriate activities are provided.

**Correction Deadline: 3/13/2019**

#### 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)

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Finding**

290-2-3-.19(1)(b) requires that cots and mats shall be provided for each child who is two (2) years of age or older and who is required to take a nap and for each child under the age of two years who can climb out of a crib or other equipment approved for infant sleep. It was determined based on observation that the children were allowed to sleep on the floor with blankets underneath them with mats were available,

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will provide a cot or mat for every child who is 2 years of age or older and every child who is under the age of 2 year who is able to climb out of a crib.

**Correction Deadline: 3/23/2019**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.19(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats shall be of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child. Mats must be in good repair, washable, covered with waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on observation that the mats were torn with exposed foam and one inch thick.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will replace the mats with two inch mats or purchase cots.

**Correction Deadline: 4/5/2019**

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

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records****Records Reviewed: 11****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Child # 1 Met

Child # 2 Met

Child # 3 Met

Child # 4 Met

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1)

Child # 6 Met

Child # 7 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Name Missing - (.08)(1), Date of Birth Missing - (.08)(1), Parents Names Missing - (.08)(1), Mom Home # Missing - (.08)(1), Mom Work # Missing - (.08)(1), Dad Home # Missing - (.08)(1), Dad Work # Missing - (.08)(1), Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1), Immunization Form - (.08)(2), Emergency Medical Authorization - (.08)(3), Allergy/Medical Information - (.08)(4), Release Person Information - (.08)(10), Infant Feeding Plan - (.10)(4)

Child # 8 Met

Child # 9 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Mom Home # Missing - (.08)(1), Mom Work # Missing - (.08)(1), Dad Home # Missing - (.08)(1), Dad Work # Missing - (.08)(1), Allergy/Medical Information - (.08)(4), Emergency Medical Authorization - (.08)(3), Immunization Form - (.08)(2), Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1), Release Person Information - (.08)(10)

Child # 10 Met

Child # 11 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2), Name Missing - (.08)(1), Date of Birth Missing - (.08)(1), Parents Names Missing - (.08)(1), Mom Home # Missing - (.08)(1), Mom Work # Missing - (.08)(1), Dad Home # Missing - (.08)(1), Dad Work # Missing - (.08)(1), Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1), Emergency Medical Authorization - (.08)(3), Allergy/Medical Information - (.08)(4), Release Person Information - (.08)(10)

**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 children records that three children did not have an enrollment record on file. It was further determined that one child did not have physician information completed.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will obtain the missing information and maintain the Children's records as required. The provider will ensure to look through all children files to ensure that they are completed in its entirety.

**Correction Deadline: 3/15/2019****Recited on 3/13/2019****Finding**

290-2-3-.08(13) requires documentation for the care of children, related and unrelated, for whom no pay is received to include a notarized statement from the Parent(s) attesting to the non-pay status. It was determined based on review of children files that there was no notarized statement from the parent on file attesting to the non-pay status for five children enrolled.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will obtain and maintain documentation.

**Correction Deadline: 3/13/2019****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 the provider lacked current immunization records for five children enrolled. The two children were not present during the visit.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

**Correction Deadline: 3/15/2019****Recited on 3/13/2019****Finding**

290-2-3-.08(9) requires that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent or guardian to drop off and pick up the Child document each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the Child. The documentation shall include at least the following information: the date, the Child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person and shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on observation that sign in sheets were not available for March 11 through March 13.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will develop, if needed, and implement sign-in and out procedures that include all required information, will inform Parents of the procedures and will monitor to ensure Children are signed in and out as required.

**Correction Deadline: 3/13/2019**

<b>Facility</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(a) requires the Home to have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to fire, severe weather, loss of electrical power or water, and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Home. The Home will have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, continuity of operations, accommodation of infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions. No Home personnel shall impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals. It was determined based on review of files that there was no written plan for procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, continuity of operations, accommodation of infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions on file.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will complete a written plan for emergencies.

**Correction Deadline: 3/23/2019**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) requires that documentation of drills required by these rules shall be maintained in the Home. The Home shall conduct drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Home shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on observation that there was no documentation of drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations for the months January and February of 2019.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will develop and implement a plan and schedule for conducting the required drills, completing the documentation, keeping the documentation on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 3/29/2019**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(f) requires that poisons, medicines, cleaning agents and other hazardous materials be in locked areas or inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the cabinet over the bathroom was not locked and had toothpaste, calamine lotion, and first aid spray accessible to children. The "keep out of reach of children" label was on the back.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

To ensure the safe storage of hazardous items, the Home Provider will make these items inaccessible to the children.

**Correction Deadline: 3/13/2019**

**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**

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

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**290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****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 gray rock climbing structure did not have any resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment when three inches was required.

**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: 3/23/2019**

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**Food Service**

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**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.10(4) requires that for the feeding of children under one year old the Home Provider must secure from Parents infant formula and a feeding plan. It was determined based on a review of children's files that child #7 did not have an infant feeding plan on file.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will ensure that infant formula and a feeding plan is secured for children under one year old.

**Correction Deadline: 3/13/2019**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Per the provider, medication is not dispensed.

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**Licensure**

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**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 observation that the provider cared for 11 related and unrelated children for pay.

**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: 3/13/2019**

**Safety and Discipline****290-2-3-.11 Animals****Met**

**Correction Deadline: 11/14/2018**

**Corrected on 3/13/2019**

.11(1)(n) - Previous citation corrected in that the provider no longer has the pet.

**Comment**

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

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

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

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

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home

**290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(m) requires written authorization for the Child to receive emergency medical treatment when the Parent is not available, shall be maintained in the vehicle. It was determined based on observation and the provider's statement that emergency medical forms are not kept in the vehicle during transportation.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will obtain copies of parental authorizations and maintain them in the vehicle.

**Correction Deadline: 3/13/2019**

**Staff Records****290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

290-2-3-.07(5) 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. This training must be completed prior to initial licensure for the Provider and within 90 days from date of hire for Provisional Employees and Employees. It was determined based on observation that the provider and helpers did not have evidence of current first aid/ CPR on file.



**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.

**Correction Deadline: 4/19/2019**

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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****Not Met****Finding**

"290-2-3-.07(4) requires the Provider, Employees and Provisional Employees with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment. Staff members must complete the training within the first 90 days of employment. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases; prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster, or threatening event such as violence at the facility; handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; and precautions in transporting children (if applicable).

It was determined based on observation that the provider and other helpers in the home did not have evidence of completing health and safety orientation training.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will complete the required training and will ensure any Employees complete the training. The Provider will develop a plan to ensure that any new Employees complete the training as required.

**Correction Deadline: 4/12/2019**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(6) requires the Home to maintain for the Provider and any Provisional Employee or Employee, current evidence of successful completion of ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is related to the care of children and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department approved source annually. 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 programs shall be maintained in the Home by the Provider, as required by these rules. It was determined based on observation that the provider did not have evidence of completing ten hours for 2018.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required annual 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.

**Correction Deadline: 4/12/2019**

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

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.