



**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: 7/21/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 6:45 AM **Departure:** 8:25 AM

FR-48433

Thomas, Aretha A

1701 Rio Vista Drive Dalton, GA 30720 Whitfield County
(706) 280-5620 Idlacademy@optilink.us

Regional Consultant

Colleen Covey

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colleen.covey@decals.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/21/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
01/22/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing
07/24/2019	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 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	2	2	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	2	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	2	4	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	2				

Children Present: 2	Total Children: 4
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1	Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

Comments

A virtual inspection was conducted on July 21, 2020 with the Provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on July 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.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.

- 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

Aretha Thomas, Program Official

Date

Colleen Covey, 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

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on July 21, 2020.

290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Comment

A virtual walk through of the center was conducted on July 21, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No hazards were observed accessible to children during the virtual visit on 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

A virtual walk through of the playground was conducted on July 21, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The playground was observed to be clean and in good repair. The provider is using the screened in porch for outdoor play.

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 Director. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed during the virtual walk through.

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on July 21, 2020.

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Per the provider no medication has been dispensed since the previous visit was conducted on January 22, 2020. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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 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 Director 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

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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 July 21, 2020.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

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

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

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