



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.

- 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

Neli Todorova, Consultant

Date

Stephanie Clark, 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: 8/19/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:00 PM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

FR-48433

Thomas, Aretha A

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Joint with: Stephanie Clark

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.12(7) - There were no children present on the day of the visit. Discussed with the provider to make sure that the flat television screen in the child care area is removed or secured before the children are present.

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

Met

Comment

The provider is not licensed to care for infants.

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

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Comment

The provider reported no firearms in the home on this date.

Comment

An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home this date.

Comment

Operable smoke detectors were observed as required in the home this date. Discussed with the provider to ensure that the batteries are checked on a regular basis for the smoke detectors on all three floors of the home.

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**

Discussed with the provider to make sure that the plants on the play area that are accessible to the children are safe. Consultant provided a list with poisonous plants in GA to the provider on this date.

Comment

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards: - Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys. Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area. Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.). Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area. Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather.

Health and Hygiene

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

There were no children present on this date. 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)**Met****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.

Safety and Discipline

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

Comment

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. Appropriate discipline discussed.

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

Comment

The provider does not provide 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 for the provider and three residents of the home.

290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR **Met**

Correction Deadline: 4/23/2021

Corrected on 8/19/2021

.07(8) - Previous citation corrected on this date as consultant observed current CPR/First Aid training with in-person component as required.

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

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Comment

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. Appropriate ratios discussed.

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

Comment

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