





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)

Cynthia Covington, Program Official

Date

Margarita Collier, 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:** 9/25/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 1:00 PM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

**FR-48735**

**Covington, Cynthia G**

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**Regional Consultant**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### 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**

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

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**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

**Records Reviewed: 2**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Met

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

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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**290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

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**Facility**

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

**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)** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

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.
- Monitor the grounds for exposed tree roots.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Provider stated the proper handwashing procedures for the children and staff members.

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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 no medication is currently dispensed

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**Licensure**

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

**Comment**

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date. The provider cared for two unrelated for children on 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)

Met

#### 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.

#### Comment

The provider provided one file for one staff member hired since the previous visit was conducted on October 22, 2019. The consultant observed one of one newly hired staff member to have evidence of a satisfactory criminal record check letter on file.

### 290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR

Met

#### Comment

Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR.

### 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 August 15, 2020. Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

Discussed: Health and Safety Training and first aid and CPR training is required for each Staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

#### Comment

Annual training requirement and documentation observed.

## 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

The Provider was observed directly supervising and being attentive to the needs of the children.