



**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:** 7/20/2022    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 2:55 PM    **Departure:** 3:25 PM

**FR-51972**

**Kowalsky, Anna K**

7626 Knollview Dr Columbus, GA 31904 Muscogee County  
 (706) 315-2257 artssmartscaringhearts@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037  
 Fax: (678) 891-5613  
 penny.svenson@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<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.
07/20/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/20/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/18/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

  

<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.

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	0	1	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	0	4	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	1	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	0	6	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	0				

  

Children Present: 0	Total Children: 6
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 4	Total Caregivers/Helpers: 4

**Comments**

August 4, 2022--An admin review was completed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/20/2022

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



### Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

**Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA [www.decalkoala.com](http://www.decalkoala.com) with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

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)

Anna Kowalsky, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 7/20/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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**Departure:** 3:25 PM

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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**

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

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 6**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Child # 1 Met

Child # 2 Met

Child # 3 Met

Child # 4 Met

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 6

Met

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

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure all required information was present on the new applications that were being used.

**Correction Deadline: 7/20/2022**

**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 a child born on March 31, 2021, had an immunization record that expired on June 30, 2022. Further the year 2022 was originally 2021 and the one was changed to a two and the physician did not initial above the change.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

**Correction Deadline: 7/20/2022**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Facility**

**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.

**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)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) requires that outdoor play areas be kept clean and free of hazards such as exposed sharp corners of concrete or equipment, rust and splinters on equipment, broken glass, open drainage ditches, holes and stagnant water. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that these hazards were present on the playground: exposed roots that posed a tripping hazard, large limbs, and weeds.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will repair any and all identified outdoor hazards and will monitor playground daily or more often as needed to ensure that the Home's outdoor play area is kept clean and free of hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 7/30/2022**

**Food Service**

**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition**

**Met**

**Comment**

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk 5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk 2 of 5 Components for snack Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers. The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website: DECAL <http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The provider stated appropriate 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**

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

**Safety and Discipline**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**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.

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

**Comment**

Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR. The Consultant discussed with the Provider that each helper was required to also have First Aid and CPR.

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**290-2-3-.07 Independent Contractors(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

The facility does not currently have any independent contractors employed.

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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**

**Comment**

Annual training requirement and documentation observed.

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

**Comment**

The facility does not currently have any volunteers employed.

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

**Comment**

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

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**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)