



**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: 2/22/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:50 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

FR-15929

Bartos, Kimberly A

3174 MORGAN BOX LANE Buford, GA 30519 Gwinnett County
 (770) 904-6508 K_BARTOS@COMCAST.NET

Regional Consultant

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934
 Fax: (678) 891-5989
 margarita.collier@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Erikka Benning

Mailing Address

3174 MORGAN BOX LANE
 BUFORD, GA 30519

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
02/22/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/13/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
03/10/2022	Licensing Study	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	4	5	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	6	7	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	6				

Children Present: 6	Total Children: 7
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3	Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study and to follow-up on the previous visit conducted on September 13, 2022. The consultant was unable to leave a formal copy of the visit report with the provider due to technical difficulties with connecting to the network. The consultant will email a formal copy of the visit report to the provider upon return to the office.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/22/2023

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA 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 1/2 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 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 1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Kimberly Bartos, Program Official

Date

Margarita Collier, Consultant

Date

Erikka Benning, 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: 2/22/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:50 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

FR-15929

Bartos, Kimberly A

3174 MORGAN BOX LANE Buford, GA 30519 Gwinnett County
(770) 904-6508 K_BARTOS@COMCAST.NET

Regional Consultant

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Erikka Benning

Mailing Address

3174 MORGAN BOX LANE
BUFORD, GA 30519

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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)

Not Evaluated

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.

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**

No hazards observed accessible to children 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)**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 observation that the following hazardous items were observed on the playground area:

- Broken wooden sticks.
- Exposed tree roots creating a potential tripping hazard.
- Exposed black PVC piping located on the front left-side of the playground next to the HVAC unit posing a potential tripping hazard.
- Leaves and acorns throughout the grounds of the playground.

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. The provider will ensure to remove all hazardous items listed from the playground area. Per the provider, the provider will request that the lawn worker remove the notated items from the playground and remove the broken PVC pipe.

Correction Deadline: 3/4/2023**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following:

- Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e., ant mounds, bees, etc.).
- Loose and/or weak tree branches.
- Standing water in and/or around playground equipment and/or toys.
- Normal wear and tear of the playground fence.
- Repluff resilient surface as needed.
- Exposed tree roots.

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The diaper changing table appeared to be clean and in good repair.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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 Animals**Not Evaluated****Comment**

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

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

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

290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not 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 was conducted on September 13, 2022.

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed the following with the provider regarding criminal record check letters:

- 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.

Finding

290-2-3-.21(1)(k) requires that only the most recently issued, electronically ported, determination letter is eligible for portability for Providers, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Provider may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter for a Provisional Employee or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department for a potential Employee if the individual's Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Provider does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on review of records that the provider did not submit a portability request for a therapist. The therapist was not present at the family childcare learning home at the time of the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Home may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Home does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The provider must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Home will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/22/2023

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 Independent Contractors(CR) **Met**

Comment

The facility does not currently have any independent contractors employed.

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

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training **Met**

Comment

Annual training requirement and documentation observed.

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

Comment

The facility does not currently have any volunteers employed.

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.