



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: 3/28/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 12:40 PM

Departure: 1:35 PM

FR-35255

Herchig, Tabitha J

166 Seaton Ave. Grovetown, GA 30813 Columbia County
(706) 723-9582 tjvh76@yahoo.com

Lead Consultant

Kaycee Purvis

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kaycee.purvis@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
03/28/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/29/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/15/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

Ratio Capacity					
Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	1	1	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	4	2	0	2	0
3 & 4 Years	3	3	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	1
Total Under 13 Years	8	6	0	2	0
Total Under 18 Years	8				
Children Present: 8 Total Children: 9 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2					

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/28/2024

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.decal.ga.gov/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), 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 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 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@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Tabitha Herchig, Program Official

Date

Kaycee Purvis, Lead Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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

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) **Met**

Comment

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure

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

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date. The Consultant observed the Provider to care for six unrelated children for pay and two related children not for pay on this date.

Safety and Discipline

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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)	N/A
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Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)	Not Met
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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 upon a review of records that the Provider did not electronically port the most recently issued determination letter for Staff #4.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will watch the videos to 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 watch the videos to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2024

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**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.