



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: 4/30/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:55 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

FR-36763

Hester, Chantelle R

120 West Tahoe Drive Savannah, GA 31405 Chatham County
(912) 464-1664 simplystartsmart@gmail.com

SysAdmin

Chrissy Miller

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Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
04/30/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/19/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/29/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

Ratio 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	3	3	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	1	1	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	6	6	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	6				
Children Present: 6 Total Children: 6					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

This is the second regulatory visit of the fiscal year.

The home currently has a two-star rating from quality rated.

Per the Provider, the home does not currently provide routine transportation, field trips, or swimming activities.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/30/2024

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!



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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

Care is not provided for any infant required to be in a crib. Discussed sanitizing requirements for sleep equipment.

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

N/A

Comment

There is no pool on the property

Children's Records

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.08(1) - Please ensure that the children records includes the full address of the release person listed on the enrollment form, the parent's business/work information, and the Child's physician information (name and phone number).

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2024

Comment

The consultant observed that six out of six children were signed into the Home on April 30, 2024.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.08(4) - Please ensure that each Child record includes the known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which would limit the Child's participation in the program. The consultant observed one out of six children records missing this information.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2024

Facility

Finding

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) requires that documentation of drills required by these rules shall be maintained in the Home. The Home shall conduct drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Home shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on the consultant's review of records that the Home does not have evidence of conducting and documenting fire, tornado, and other safety drills for emergency situations since the last regulatory visit on December 19, 2023, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Provider will develop and implement a plan and schedule for conducting the required drills, completing the documentation, keeping the documentation on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2024

Recited on 4/30/2024

Comment

An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home this date. The fire extinguisher was observed to be full. The consultant discussed having the fire extinguisher inspected to ensure that the fire extinguisher is in good working order in case of an emergency.

Comment

Operable smoke detector(s) were observed as required in the home this date.

290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR)

Met

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. requires that the Home be clean and free from hazards.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)

Not Met

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) - The consultant discussed daily monitoring of the outdoor play area and outdoor equipment to ensure that hazards are not present while children are present for care.

Correction Deadline: 5/10/2024

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Finding

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) requires that outside play areas be protected from traffic or other hazards by fencing or other barriers at least four feet in height and approved by the Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children. A fence shall be provided around swimming pools to make them inaccessible when not in use. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that there was a hole in the fence along the back portion of the fence measuring more than three and one-half inches and posing an entrapment hazard to the children in care. The consultant also observed that there was a loose board located on the back, left side of the outdoor play area that was not securely attached to the fence structure and on the back, right part of the outdoor play area there were pieces of splintered fencing material on the ground posing a hazard to the children in care. Additionally, the fence gate was observed to be open and not closed and latched while children are present for care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will enclose the outside play area(s) with a four-foot high fence or other Department-approved barrier and inspect regularly to ensure fencing material is safe and any hazards identified are repaired or replaced. The Home will install or repair a fence around swimming pools that makes them inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2024

Food Service

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.10(15) - Discussed that containers of food should be stored above the floor on clean surfaces protected from splash and other contamination.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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

Comment

There are no diapered children currently enrolled in the program.

290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.11(1)(d) - Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures. The Provider stated that no medication has been dispensed and the consultant did not observe any medication being dispensed during the visit. The consultant emailed a copy of the medication form to the Provider during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2024

Licensure

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

Comment

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date. The consultant observed six children for pay present in the Home for care during the visit.

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Animals **N/A**

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. Discussed the Home's discipline procedures during the visit.

290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit **Met**

Comment

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

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

Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)	Met
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Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete. The Home is currently not being used as a residence.

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

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

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training	Not Met
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Finding

290-2-3-.07(9) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, and any Provisional Employees or and Employees, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department- approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained in the Home by the Provider, as required by these rules. It was determined based on the consultant's review of records that the Provider did not have evidence of at completing at least ten (10) annual training hours for January 2023 to December 2023, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will obtain the required annual training for Staff and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2024

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

The Provider was observed being attentive to the needs of the children. Discussed proper watchful oversight during meal times.