



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: 9/27/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 1:40 PM

Departure: 3:30 PM

FR-000013643

Mallard, Lynda D

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(229) 310-2964 lyndalearningcenter@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

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Mailing Address

BUENA VISTA, GA 31803

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.
09/27/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/28/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/05/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

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

Comments

September 27, 2023--The visit was completed on this date. The findings were discussed with the Provider.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/27/2023

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.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!

Lynda Mallard, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, Regional 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)

Defer

Defer

The Provider stated infants were currently placed on mats and they were observed during sleep to ensure infants remained on the mats. Further, the Provider stated they ordered safety approved infant sleep equipment. The Consultant further discussed that infants were not allowed to sleep in bouncy seats, swings, or car safety seats due to positional asphyxiation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will move infants who fall asleep in equipment other than a safety-approved crib such as a car safety seat, highchair or swing, or on the floor, to a safety-approved crib. The Provider stated they would get a safety-approved crib for the infant to sleep in.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2023

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

Met

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Records Reviewed: 5**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Proof of No Liability Insurance Form, Infant Feeding Plan - (.10)(4)

Child # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2), Proof of No Liability Insurance Form, Infant Feeding Plan - (.10)(4)

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Proof of No Liability Insurance Form, Infant Feeding Plan - (.10)(4)

290-2-3-.08 Children's Records**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.08(11) requires that if the Home is not covered by liability insurance sufficient to protect its clients, the Home must notify the Parent of each Child under the care of the program in writing. Each Parent must acknowledge receipt of such notice, and a copy of the acknowledgement shall be kept in the Child's file. It was determined based on a review of records that three out of five enrolled children did not have signed proof of the program not having liability insurance.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will obtain and maintain documentation.

Correction Deadline: 9/27/2023

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure the parent provided the updated immunization record for the child that received shots last week.

Correction Deadline: 9/27/2023

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 there was an area that was washed out with exposed roots and a large hole at the back left corner as you entered the gate. Further, there was a large washed out area on the right middle side of the fenced play area and there were exposed roots and large holes that posed tripping hazards.

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: 10/7/2023

Food Service**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.10(3) requires a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age be obtained from Parent(s). Instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the main child care area and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on a review of records that three enrolled infants did not have a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age be obtained from Parent(s). Instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the main child care area and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis.

Correction Deadline: 9/28/2023

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

Discussed labeling of "diapering only" areas and staff work stations.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of 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.

Policies and Procedures

290-2-3-.14 Required Reporting**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Provider to report any closures, incidents in which children received an injury that required care by a physician, or abuse that happened outside of the program in Koala under Required Reports.

Safety and Discipline**290-2-3-.11 Animals****Met****Comment**

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

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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

The Consultant provided a list of items that were required to be present in the first aid kit: scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, thermometer, adhesive tape, band-aids, insect - sting preparation, antiseptic cleaning solution, antibacterial ointment, bandages, disposable rubber gloves, protective eyewear, facemask, and cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored in a central location so that it is not accessible to Children but is easily accessible to the Provider and Staff. The Home must also maintain written directions for the use of universal precautions for handling blood and bodily fluids. The directions on the use of universal precautions must be kept with the first aid kit at all times.

Correction Deadline: 10/7/2023

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.

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 Other Staff Direct Contact with Children(CR)**Met****Comment**

The facility does not currently have any additional staff employed.

290-2-3-.07 Provisional Employees	Met
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Comment

Observed compliance with the local zoning authorities, fire safety agencies and local building authorities on this date.

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	Met
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Comment

Annual training requirement and documentation observed.

290-2-3-.07 Students-in-Training(CR)	Met
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Comment

The facility does not currently have any students-in-training employed.

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

The facility does not currently have any volunteers employed.

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 directly supervising and being attentive to the needs of the children.