



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

Investigation Report

Date: 3/9/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up

FR-23315

Williams, Lateisha L

1324 ROYAL OAK STREET Grovetown, GA 30813 Columbia

County

(706) 951-0299 lateisha225@yahoo.com

Special Investigations Unit Specialist

Brittany Cook

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Mailing Address

1324 Royal Oak Street

Grovetown, GA 30813

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/09/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing
08/11/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing
12/23/2024	Complaint Closure	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.

Comments

The investigative findings were not concluded on this date. The investigation remains open pending additional information. Upon completion, the findings will be reviewed with the child care program and a final copy of the report will be sent.

Advisement of Potential for Repeated Rule Violations during Pending Investigations

This report shall serve as official notice of potential rule violations. These potential rule violations have been detailed in this report and discussed with you by the consultant. The department shall conduct a thorough investigation to determine if in fact the alleged rule violation(s) should or should not be substantiated. Please be aware that the investigation may take some time to be finalized to ensure fairness and accuracy. During this investigation period, any violations of an identical rule or rules will require the department to treat any and all substantiated rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violation(s).

Further, from time to time the department discovers additional rule violations during the course of an investigation. If there are new rule violation(s), your consultant shall inform you of the violation(s) as soon as possible. However, as stated above, any violations of identical rule(s) will require the department to treat any and all additional rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violations.

All rule violations found in relation to a complaint or incident investigation will be associated with the date the investigation was closed.



Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.al.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)

I have read and understand the Rules and Regulations for Family Child Care Learning Home, 290-2-3. I acknowledge that the items noted in this report have been discussed with me and I have agreed to a Plan of Improvement (POI) as indicated in this report. I understand that correction of these deficiencies, while required, will not necessarily prevent DECAL from taking adverse action against this facility. I understand that if I disagree with any of the deficiencies cited, I have the right to refute them on this report or any other form that I choose to send to Child Care Services.



Summary Report

Date: 3/9/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:45 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment**290-2-3-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.12(5) - Please ensure all equipment was in good repair including the handlebars on the tricycles.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2026**Children's Records****290-2-3-.08 Children's Records****Met****Correction Deadline: 3/9/2026****Corrected on 3/9/2026**

.08(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2025**Corrected on 3/9/2026**

.08(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Provider stated that Child #1 was no longer enrolled.

Facility**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 8/11/2025****Corrected on 3/9/2026**

.11(2)(f) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed a lock on the kitchen cabinets.

290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 8/30/2025****Corrected on 3/9/2026**

.13(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the restroom, furniture, and carpeting to be in good repair.

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 on observation that there were three active ant mounds in the outside play area.

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: 3/9/2026

Recited on 3/9/2026

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) - Please ensure that the gate to the outside area remains closed at all times when children are present including when they are not outside.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2026

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 observation that there were several gaps at the bottom of the fence on the left side of the outside play area that measured between 3 and 6 inches that posed an entrapment hazard.

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: 3/9/2026

Health and Hygiene**290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.11(1)(j) requires children's hands to be washed with liquid soap and warm running water: immediately upon arrival for the day and re-entering the child care area after outside play; before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, and playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, contact with bodily fluids such as, but not limited to, mucus, saliva, vomit or blood, and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that a child did not wash their hands with liquid soap before eating a snack.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

To ensure proper hygiene, all children will wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2026

Recited on 3/9/2026

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

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2025

Corrected on 3/9/2026

.07(9)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant reviewed training records that totaled ten clock hours of annual training.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

Finding

290-2-3-.07(16) requires the Home to ensure that the total number of Children not Related to the Provider in the Family Child Care Learning Home, for pay or not for pay, cannot exceed six Children, except that a Provider may care for two additional children who are three years of age or older for two designated one hour periods daily upon approval by the Department. It was determined based on observation that a ratio of 1:8 was present in the Home that consisted of one infant, two 1-year-old children, three 2-year-old children, one 3-year-old child, and one 4-year old child. A ratio of 2:8 was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will reduce the number of unrelated children, both for pay and not for pay, so that the total number of unrelated children in care does not exceed the number of children as specified in these rules.

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2026

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.07(18) requires at least one Staff person with a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination shall supervise Children at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means Staff members are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The person(s) supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. Plans shall be made to obtain additional Staff help in cases of emergencies. It was determined based on observation that the staff was not seated within an arm's length away from two 1-year-old children and three 2-year-old children during two different meal times.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will ensure that either the Provider or at least one Staff person with a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination supervises the children at all times as required by the rules. The Home will develop or update a plan to obtain additional Staff help in case of an emergency.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2026