



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: 9/3/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:20 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

FR-23465

Brathwaite, Margaret

2283 GRASSY SPRINGS COURT Conyers, GA 30012 Rockdale
County
(770) 648-7014

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@decals.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
09/03/2025	Licensing Study	Support	
05/06/2025	MV POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
03/05/2025	Licensing Study	Support	

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	3	3	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	2	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	3	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	4	9	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	4				
Children Present: 4 Total Children: 9					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2					

Comments

On this date, Jessica Johnson (JJ), Consultant, reviewed the visit report with Helper Merry Brathwaite. The CCS Consultant discussed and left a copy of the updated Child Care Weather watch Chart with the program today. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 09/17/2025

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 user id 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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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

290-2-3-.09 Activities

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.09(3) requires that outdoor activities be provided daily, weather permitting. It was determined based on staff interviews that outdoor activities had not been provided for children in care.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Recited on 9/3/2025

Finding

290-2-3-.09(5) requires that children less than three (3) years of age shall not spend more than one-half (1/2) hour of time consecutively in confining equipment, such as swings, highchairs, jumpseats, carriers or walkers. Children shall use such equipment only when they are awake. Such children shall be allowed time to play on the floor daily. It was determined based on observation that children less than three 3-years-old were observed in the play yards for more than one-half hour of time on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.09(6) - Please ensure that supervised tummy time on the floor is provided daily for each infant while the infant is awake.

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR)

Not Met

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

290-2-3-.19(1)(a)3 requires that each crib and other equipment approved for infant sleep shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on observation that two of four playard sheets were not tight-fitting on this date.

Recited on 9/3/2025

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

Met

Home does not provide swimming activities.

There is no pool on the property

Records Reviewed: 9**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Not Met

Dad Work # Missing $-(.08)(1)$

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Name Missing - (.08)(1),Date of Birth Missing -(.08)(1),Parents Names Missing -(.(08)(1),Mom Home # Missing -(.(08)(1),Mom Work # Missing -(.(08)(1),Dad Home # Missing -(.(08)(1),Dad Work # Missing -(.(08)(1),Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1),Immunization Form - (.08)(2),Emergency Medical Authorization - (.08)(3),Allergy/Medical Information - (.08)(4),Release Person Information - (.08)(10),Infant Feeding Plan - (.10)(4),Proof of No Liability Insurance Form

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.08(1) requires the Home to have a current and updated record for each Child in care and for a period of one (1) year after each Child leaves. Such records shall include: identifying information (Child's name, birth date, Parent's name, home and business addresses, telephone numbers); name, address and telephone number of persons, including Child's physician, to contact in emergencies; and name, address, telephone numbers, relationship to Child and to Parent(s) and other identifying information of person(s) to whom the Child may be released. It was determined based on a review of record that Child #4 did not have a record on file on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2025

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.08(13) - Please ensure that no compensation forms are notarized.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Finding

290-2-3-.08(2) requires the Home to maintain a file for each Child that includes evidence of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunizations; enrollment in the Home may not continue for more than 30 days without such evidence. It was determined based on a review of records that Child # 5 did not have a current immunization record on file on this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2025

Recited on 9/3/2025

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.08(8) - Discussed updating the Home's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Home.

Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Home to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the FCCLH Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.08(8)(b) - Please ensure that infant safe sleep practices are added to Child #4 records.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

		Facility
290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)		Not Met

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.11(2)(a) - Please ensure that the emergency preparedness plan is up to date.

Correction Deadline: 9/13/2025

Comment

Home observed complete emergency drills

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.11(2)(h) - Please ensure to have one fire extinguisher with the classification 2-A:10-B:C.

Correction Deadline: 9/13/2025

Finding

290-2-3-.11(2)(h) requires at least one UL Approved smoke detector to be on each floor of the Home and such detectors to be maintained in working order. At least one 2-A:10-B:C fire extinguisher shall be kept in the child care area to be located no more than thirty feet from the kitchen. The extinguisher shall be maintained in working order and shall be inaccessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that the smoke detector was not in working order on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

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

Met

Comment

The Home appeared clean and free from hazards.

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.13(2)(a) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as the Home created a smaller fenced area for the children.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.13(2)(d) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider that the 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.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) - Please ensure that the outside play areas is 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.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Food Service

290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.10(4) requires that all baby bottles be clearly labeled with the individual child's name. Formula or breast milk shall be supplied by the Parent daily in bottles. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. Bottles shall be refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. If formula must be provided by the Home, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on a review of records that Child #4 did not have a infant feeding plan in the record on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/5/2025

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)

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Not Evaluated

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.

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.

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

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.11(1)(e) - Please ensure that a cold pack is added to the first aid kit.

Correction Deadline: 9/13/2025

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

Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 3

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/20/2007

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Health & Safety Certificate .07(7)

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 Technical Assistance

Comment

Evidence observed that the Provider was certified in pediatric First Aid and CPR on this date.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.07(8)(a) - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that Homes must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training present during field trips, transportation of children, and on the Home's premises whenever any Child is present.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2025

290-2-3-.11 Prohibited Substances Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.11(1)(l) - Please ensure to post the no smoking sign with the posted items board.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

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 Not Met

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.07(10) - Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Finding

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2025

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2025

290-2-3-.07(9)(b)1 - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

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.