



**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:** 4/14/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 12:40 PM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

**FR-26750**

**Whitworth, Barbara M**

201 JENNINGS POND COURT Woodstock, GA 30188 Cherokee  
County  
(678) 366-8450 Bmwworks4u@bellsouth.net

Regional Consultant

Randy Gaytan

Phone: (770) 357-7022

Fax: (770) 357-7021

randy.gaytan@dec.al.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. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 04/14/2025                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 05/28/2024                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 10/23/2023                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                             |                  |               | <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.                                                                                                                |
|                             |                  |               | <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.                                                                                                                          |
|                             |                  |               | <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.                                                                                                                |

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

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.

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#### 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](http://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.

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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:**

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

**Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



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**(Findings Report)**

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Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

**Records Reviewed: 4**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90  
calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(a), Copy Of Satisfactory Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(c)

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

**Comment**

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 4**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90  
calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(a), Copy Of Satisfactory Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(c)

**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 five out of six children did not have current immunizations on file.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will ensure that an immunization record/signed affidavit is on file for each enrolled Child.

**Correction Deadline: 4/14/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.08(9) - Spoke to provider about purchasing a new I-pad to sign in on Brightwheel.

**Correction Deadline: 4/14/2025**

**290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR)**

Met

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Facility

**Records Reviewed: 4**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(a), Copy Of Satisfactory Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(c)

**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**

Not Met

**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 a review of records that no emergency drills were completed for the year 2024.

**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: 5/14/2025**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**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.

## Food Service

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(a), Copy Of Satisfactory Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(c)

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

Not Met

#### Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk 5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk 2 of 5 Components for snack Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers. The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website: DECAL <http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

#### 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 observation that a child's bottle was heated up in the microwave.

#### POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will ensure that requirements for bottles, formula and breast milk are followed and will ensure that feeding procedures are met.

Correction Deadline: 4/14/2025

## Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(a), Copy Of Satisfactory Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(c)

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

Met

#### Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

#### Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Met

#### Comment

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures.

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

N/A

#### Comment

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

## Licensure

**Records Reviewed: 4**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(a), Copy Of Satisfactory Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(c)

**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**

**Records Reviewed: 4**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(a), Copy Of Satisfactory Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(c)

**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**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home

**290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 4**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(a), Copy Of Satisfactory Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(c)

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.21(1)(a) requires the Home to ensure that the Provider, every actual and potential Employee(including residents age 17 and older) and Provisional Employee of the Family Child Care Learning Home has submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #1 had not submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will routinely review criminal records checks for all staff and residents to ensure that every actual and potential Provider, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Family Child Care Learning Home submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. 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 follow the procedures presented in the training videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 4/14/2025**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.21(1)(c) requires every Employee to have a current and valid satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before residing in the Home if age 17 or older. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #1 did not have a current and valid satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will routinely review all Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Home. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. 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 follow the procedures presented in the training videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 4/14/2025**

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

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

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff Training****Not Met****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 a review of records that the provider completed zero out of ten annual training hours for the year 2024.

**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: 5/14/2025**

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|

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**Records Reviewed: 4**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

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Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/14/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(a), Copy Of Satisfactory Criminal Records Check -.21(1)(c)

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider was observed directly supervising and being attentive to the needs of the children.