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: 7/31/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:35 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

FR-000002190
Anderson, Cynthia L
3665 CHERRY RIDGE BLVD Decatur, GA 30034 DeKalb County
(404) 243-7263 ashleytanderson@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant
Jessica Johnson
Phone: (770) 357-5090
Fax:
jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/31/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing
08/20/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/14/2024	Licensing Study	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.

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	1	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	6	6	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	7	7	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	7				

Children Present: 7
Total Children: 7
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2
Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

More than 6 for pay
6 for pay present & no-pay present does not have a notorized no-pay statement

Comments
On this date, Jessica Johnson (JJ), Consultant, reviewed the visit report with Provider Cynthia Anderson. JJ issued a 1-day CRC letter for the following employees: Akilia Akins.

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.

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 techincal assistance is available!**

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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a LS:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 3 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1 Not Met

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

290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR) **Not Met**

Comment
Per the Provider no infants are currently enrolled.

Finding
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 the play yard sheet was not tight fitting on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will ensure that each crib or other equipment approved for infant sleep has a tight-fitting sheet that is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025

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

Comment
There is no pool on the property

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 3 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.08(1) - Please ensure adding the parental agreement forms to the children records.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

Finding
290-2-3-.08(13) requires documentation for the care of children, related and unrelated, for whom no pay is received to include a notarized statement from the Parent(s) attesting to the non-pay status. It was determined based on a review of records that Child # 7 did not have the no compensation form completed on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will obtain and maintain documentation.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025

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 #7 did not have a current immunization records on file on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will ensure that an immunization record/signed affidavit is on file for each enrolled Child.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2025

Comment
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.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: https://dontshake.org/.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

Facility

Records Reviewed: 3 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant - Safe Environment **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.13(1)(f) - Please ensure that the purifier is be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025 **Prior Visits: 08/20/2024**

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

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.11(2)(a) - Please ensure updating the emergency preparedness plan and posting the emergency preparedness plan with the posted items.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2025

Comment
Home observed complete emergency drills

Comment
An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home this date.

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
The Home appeared 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 the window on the outdoor area had a torn screen on this date.

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: 8/10/2025 **Prior Visits: 08/20/2024, 09/20/2023**

Food Service

Records Reviewed: 3 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1 Not Met

"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 **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://decal.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx USDA http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks

Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 3 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1 Not Met

"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
Proper hand washing of children and staff were discussed with the provider on this date.

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.11(1)(f) - Please ensure that diapering occurs on a nonporous surface which is cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single use disposable towel after each diaper change. Discussed replacing the diapering pad.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment
Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure

Records Reviewed: 3 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1 Not Met

"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) **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.04(1)(d) requires a person that provides care for more than six children for pay, related or unrelated, as defined in these rules, shall make application to the Department for a license to operate a Child Care Learning Center, except as provided in 290-2-3-.07(15). It was determined based on observation that a ratio of 1:7 was observed on this date when a ratio of 1:6 was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Family Child Care Learning Home caring for more than six children shall reduce the number of children in care to six. The Family Child Care Learning Home will submit an application for a Child Care Learning Center and receive a license to operate from the Department before caring for more than six children, related or unrelated, for pay.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

Safety and Discipline

Records Reviewed: 3 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Staff # 1 Not Met

"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 observation that staff #1 did not complete the Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will review 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 review to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

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 observation that staff # 1 did not 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.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will review 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 review to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

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

Comment
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.

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

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

Comment
Discussed staff qualifications and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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

Comment
290-2-3-.07(9)(a) - 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.

Correction Deadline: 8/30/2025

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

Comment
Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

Records Reviewed: 3 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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.