



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: 3/26/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 1:00 PM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

FR-0000170023

Cooper, Thelma

598 Blount Chapel Road Louisville, GA 30434 Burke County
(478) 206-2872

Regional Consultant

Christina Jennings

Phone: (404) 463-0970

Fax: (770) 342-3177

christina.jennings@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

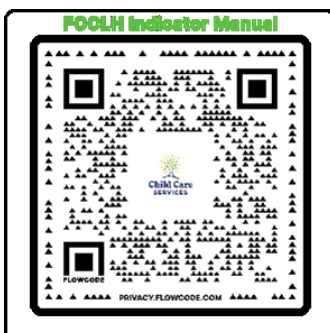
<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient. Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable 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.
03/26/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/10/2026	TA Follow Up	NA	
02/10/2026	TA Follow Up	NA	

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	0	0	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	3	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	4	0	4	0
Total Under 13 Years	0	6	0	4	0
Total Under 18 Years	0				
Children Present: 0 Total Children: 11					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 5 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 0					

Comments

The Consultant and Provider reviewed the report.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at <https://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.

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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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!



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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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.09(1) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed activities posted for children in the children's playroom on this date. There were no children present on the date of the visit.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.12(1) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed age-appropriate toys for children on this date. There were no children present on the date of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.12(7) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the various pieces of furniture, medical equipment, shelving, a television, and other items to have been removed from along the right wall in the children's playroom on this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.12(8) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed a table with chairs in the children's playroom on this date. There were no children present on the date of the visit.

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

Met

Comment

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

Comment

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

N/A

Comment

There is no pool on the property

Facility

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.11(2)(c) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed complete documentation of drills on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2026

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.11(2)(f) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant did not observe hazardous items to be accessible to children on this date. There were no children present on the date of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 10/15/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.11(2)(h) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the fire extinguisher to be in working order on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.13(1) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the bath tub to not be accessible to children on this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.13(1)(d) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant did not observe a space heater accessible to children on this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.13(1)(e) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the electrical outlets to be covered with a protective cap on this date.

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

Defer

290-2-3-.13(2)(a)-Deferred until the next regulatory visit due to the fencing surrounding the outdoor play area to be under repairs 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: 4/16/2026

Recited on 1/1/0001

Defer

290-2-3-.13(2)(d)-Deferred until the next regulatory visit due to the fencing surrounding the outdoor play area to be under repairs on this date.

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: 4/30/2026

Recited on 1/1/0001

Food Service

Finding

290-2-3-.10(14) requires that the Home have a designated space for storage of food and kitchen items. The area shall be kept clean and free of accumulation of dust, dirt, food particles and grease deposits. It was determined based on observation that the kitchen was not free of dust, dirt, and food particles.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will designate an area for the storage of these items, will ensure that it is clean and monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2026

Recited on 3/26/2026

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.10(17) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed garbage that was stored in a trash container with a lid on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Provider stated proper handwashing procedures on this date. There were no children present on the date of the visit. .11(1)(i) -

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.11(1)(j) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Provider stated proper handwashing procedures on this date. There were no children present on the date of the visit.

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

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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.

Safety and Discipline**290-2-3-.11 Animals****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.11(1)(n) requires pets in the Home be properly vaccinated in accordance with the requirements of the local county Boards of Health. Unconfined pets shall not be permitted in child care areas when any Child is present except for supervised learning experiences. It was determined based on a review of records that one pet dog did not have evidence of current vaccination records. It was further determined based on a review of records that a black and white cat that was unconfined in the living area of the home did not have proof of current vaccine records.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will ensure that all animals are properly vaccinated and that unconfined animals are not allowed in child care areas.

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2026

Recited on 3/26/2026

Finding

290-2-3-.11(o) requires the Home control pets and other animals to maintain proper sanitation and ensure animals are not a hazard to anyone. No animal that may be vicious is permitted on the premises while children are present. Farm animals cannot be housed within 500 feet of the home. It was determined based on observation that there were roosters, chickens, and one turkey that freely roamed the front and back yard. It was further determined that there was a chicken coop located closer than five hundred (500) feet of the building in which the Family Child Care Learning Home was located.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will ensure that proper sanitation is maintained and that animals are not a hazard to anyone on the premises of the Home. Any animal that may have a vicious propensity, shall not be allowed on the premises of the Home any time children are present. Any farm animals on the property, must not be housed within 500 feet of the Home.

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2026

Recited on 3/26/2026

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

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)	N/A
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Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

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

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR	Met
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Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.07(8)(b) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the Provider and Staff # 3 to have evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid 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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Correction Deadline: 12/31/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.07(9) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed ten hours of annual training for the 20255 calendar year on this date.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.07(18) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Provider stated that children are not allowed to be unsupervised on this date. There were no children present on the date of the visit.