



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: 9/11/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 1:10 PM

Departure: 3:30 PM

FR-000011496

Rakestraw, Shirley A.

35 WINDSOR WAY Oxford, GA 30054 Newton County
(770) 787-8920 rakestraw8920@aol.com

Regional Consultant

Kajora McCoy

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Mailing Address

P.O. BOX 563
OXFORD, GA 30054

Quality Rated: ★

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.
09/11/2023	Monitoring Visit	Support	
03/20/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/26/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	

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	2	3	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	3	3	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	5	6	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	5				
Children Present: 5 Total Children: 6 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 5 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 5					

Comments

Consultant conducted an onsite monitoring visit on September 11, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/11/2023

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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@dec.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Shirley Rakestraw, Program Official

Date

Kajora McCoy, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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)

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

Met

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Release Person Information - (.08)(10)

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Release Person Information - (.08)(10)

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Mom Work # Missing -(08)(1), Release Person Information - (08)(10)

Child # 6

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (08)(2)

290-2-3-.08 Children's Records**Met****Correction Deadline: 3/20/2023****Corrected on 9/11/2023****.08(1) - This citation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed records for all enrolled children.****Facility****290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant - Safe Environment****Met****Correction Deadline: 3/30/2023****Corrected on 9/11/2023****.13(1)(g) - This citation was corrected on this date. Consultant did not observe the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin on the premises****290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****Comment**

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

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

290-2-3-.13(1) - Please ensure that the Home is clean and free of hazards.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2023**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 there were six large sized ant beds on the playground. It was further determined that there was an exposed nail at the right side of the wooden barrier around the playground.

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: 9/21/2023**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 was a hole at the left back side of the playground fence that measured one foot and seven inches wide and five feet long that posed a potential escape 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: 9/11/2023

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

290-2-3-.11(1)(i) requires that personnel shall wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water: immediately before and after each diaper change; immediately upon the first Child's arrival in the Home for care and upon re-entering the Home after outside play; before and after dispensing oral medications and applying topical medications, ointments, creams or lotions, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding or assisting children with eating and drinking; after toileting or helping children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling 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 the provider did not wash hands before diapering.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2023

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 hands after diapering.

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: 9/11/2023

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

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2023

Corrected on 9/11/2023

.11(1)(f) - This citation was corrected on this date. Provider not caring for infants.

290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)**N/A****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 Discipline(CR)

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Met

Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2022

Corrected on 9/11/2023

.11(2)(m) - This citation was corrected on this date. Provider stated that no transportation was being provided.

Staff Records

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 Staff Qualifications(CR)

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

290-2-3-.07(9)-Provider stated that she did not have access to training documentation for 2023. Citation deferred until next licensing study.

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: 4/19/2023

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

Finding

290-2-3-.07(17) 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 provider was not seated within arms reach of children during snack.

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: 9/11/2023