



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: 3/3/2026

VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:55 AM

Departure: 11:10 AM

FR-34857

Beard-Battle, Charlotte M

590 Elm Street Lincolnton, GA 30817 Lincoln County
(706) 990-0348

Regional Consultant

Christina Jennings

Phone: (404) 463-0970

Fax: (770) 342-3177

christina.jennings@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

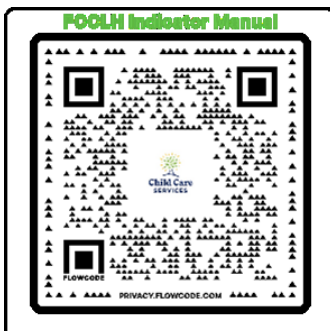
<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient. Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable 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.
03/03/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/26/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/02/2024	Licensing Study	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	1	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	4	4	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	1	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	5	6	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	5				
Children Present: 5 Total Children: 7					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

The Consultant and Provider reviewed the report and discussed best practices.

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-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR)

Technical Assistance

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.12(7) - The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that equipment, furniture, and learning materials are not stacked along the walls to prevent a tipping hazard in the children's area.

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

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

Met

Comment

The Provider stated that they do not have infants enrolled on this date (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

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were discussed and reviewed.

Facility

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.11(2)(f) requires that poisons, medicines, cleaning agents and other hazardous materials be in locked areas or inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were accessible in the children's bathroom:

The unlocked white storage cabinet:

- An open pack of Bic razors in the first top drawer.
- Hair gel in the second drawer.
- Hair gel and hair products in the third bottom drawer.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

To ensure the safe storage of hazardous items, the Home Provider will make these items inaccessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

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

290-2-3-.13(1)(e) - The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that the extension cords and outlets accessible to children are covered with a protective cap.

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) - The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that the children's outdoor play area is properly maintained such as but not limited to ensuring that the play area is free of branches.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026

Health and Hygiene

290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****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 3-year-old child did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after repeatedly coughing.

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: 3/3/2026

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

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**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)**N/A****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	Not Met
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Finding

290-2-3-.07(8)(b) requires the Provider, a Provisional Employee or Employee with current evidence of successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid must always be on the Home's premises whenever any Child is present. It was determined based on a review of records that

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Provider will ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present on the Home's premises when children are present.

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

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

290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)	Met
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Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.