



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: 5/23/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:45 AM **Departure:** 11:45 AM

FR-38971

McElrath, Wanda L

707 Dawnville Road Dalton, GA 30721 Whitfield County
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Regional Consultant

Debrik Perry

Phone: (478) 599-9821

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debrik.perry@decal.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.
05/23/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/28/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/02/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

Ratio Capacity					
Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	1	1	1	0	0
1 & 2 Years	0	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	4	4	2	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	2	0	1	0
Total Under 13 Years	5	8	3	1	0
Total Under 18 Years	5				
Children Present: 5 Total Children: 9					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

An in person inspection was conducted on May 23, 2024 with the provider.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/23/2024

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/RuleAndRegulations.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!



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(Findings 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)

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2023

Corrected on 5/23/2024

Previous citation corrected. Nap time was not observed on this date. There were no accessible pillows observed on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/1/2023

Corrected on 5/23/2024

Previous citation corrected. Nap time was not observed on this date. The provider stated proper knowledge of using and sanitizing mat sheets.

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

Met

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2023

Corrected on 5/23/2024

Previous citation corrected. Children records were reviewed. The one child that is related had an affidavit on file.

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

Met

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

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**

Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure that the tall blue vacuum cleaner is removed from the children's play room.

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 white plastic picnic table had red tape on the cracked areas located in two areas.

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: 6/2/2024

Food Service**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.10(6) requires the Home to provide a menu listing all meals and snacks to be served during the current week. Substitutions shall be recorded on the posted menu. Menus shall be retained at the Home for six (6) months. It was determined based on a review of files the provider did not provide and post a current weekly menu

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will list all of the current week's meals and snacks and all substitutions on the menu and keep past menus on file for six months and will implement a system to monitor this.

Correction Deadline: 5/23/2024

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2023

Corrected on 5/23/2024

Previous citation corrected. The provider was not providing care for related students on this date. Five unrelated children were present on this date.

Safety and Discipline

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

The provider and/or the home's employee were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

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

Met

Comment

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Provider stated that there have been no new hires since last visit February 28, 2023.

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Annual training requirement and documentation observed.

290-2-3-.07 Students-in-Training(CR)

Met

Comment

The facility does not currently have any students-in-training employed.

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

Met

Comment

The facility does not currently have any volunteers employed.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

Corrected on 5/23/2024

Previous citation corrected. The provider was providing care for five children on this date. The provider provided files for six children enrolled.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.