



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: 6/2/2026

VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:50 AM

Departure: 12:00 PM

FR-000014466

Jones, Maria L

203 Lonsdale Lane Hinesville, GA 31313 Liberty County
(912) 977-6260

CCS Coordinator

Rebekah Mullinax

Phone: (770) 357-7055

Fax: Rebekah Mullinax

rebekah.mullinax@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Emily Patterson

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

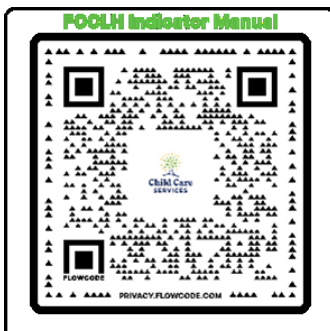
Compliance Zone Designation			Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient. Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable 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.
06/02/2026	Licensing Study	Deficient	
11/17/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/18/2025	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	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	1	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	1	1	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	3	3	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	3				
Children Present: 3 Total Children: 3 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2					

Comments

The visit report was reviewed with the Provider on this date.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 06/16/2026



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

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

Date: 6/2/2026 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 9:50 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

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Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.12(5) requires all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment shall be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint and kept clean. It was determined based on observation that there was a trampoline that had a broken frame and rusted springs located on the playground and accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 7/2/2026

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. The Consultant and Provider discussed if side sleeping is medically necessary, a Doctors note is required.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that mats and any bedding be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2026

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

N/A

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Comment

There is no pool on the property

Children's Records

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

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

Not Met

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 the immunization record for Child #1 expired on June 5, 2025.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2026

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

Met

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) requires that documentation of drills required by these rules shall be maintained in the Home. The Home shall conduct drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Home shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records that there was no evidence that emergency drills for tornados or other emergency situations had been conducted every six months as required.

Correction Deadline: 6/30/2026

Recited on 6/2/2026

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 hazards were present on the outdoor play area as follows:

- 1. The PVC pipe surrounding the area by the swings/slide equipment was disconnected in three places.
- 2. Weed mat was exposed beneath and in the fall zone of the swings and slides where the resilient material had worn away and created a tripping hazard for the children.
- 3. There were three garden tools propped against a rock climbing play structure.
- 4. There was a garden hose on the right front side that posed a tripping hazard.
- 5. There was an active ant bed near the entrance gate of the playground.
- 6. Several thorny vines that were accessible to children on the back fence.

Correction Deadline: 7/2/2026

Recited on 6/2/2026

Finding

290-2-3-.13(2)(c) requires that climbing and swinging equipment that are not portable have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment, which is adequately maintained by the Home to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that there was no resilient surfacing beneath and in the fall zones under the swings, slide structure and the rock climbing wall structure when 6 inches was required.

Correction Deadline: 7/2/2026

Recited on 6/2/2026

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 22 inch gap located on the right front side of the play area.

Correction Deadline: 7/2/2026

Recited on 6/2/2026

290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition**Technical Assistance****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://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

Technical Assistance

Please ensure Formula or breast milk shall be supplied by the Parent daily in bottles and properly labeled.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2026**Health and Hygiene****290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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 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 there was no evidence of proper vaccination in accordance with the requirements of the local county Boards of Health.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2026**290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit **Met**

Comment

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

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

Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 2	Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2
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Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9)

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2003

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9)

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 First Aid & CPR(CR) **Met**

Comment

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

290-2-3-.07 Provider Qualifications **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that the Home maintains a personnel file for all Staff.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2026

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 **Not Met**

Finding

290-2-3-.07(9)(a) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, Provisional Employees or and Employees, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of records that the Provider and Staff #1 did not have evidence of 10 clock hours of diverse training for 2025.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2026

Finding

290-2-3-.07(9)(b)1 requires the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices. It was determined based on a review of records that the Provider and Staff #1 did not have evidence of at least two hours in evidence based language and literacy training for 2025.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2026

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

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