



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: 10/24/2024 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM **Departure:** 1:25 PM

FR-64195

Smith, Sharonda

1080 Douglas Rd Harlem, GA 30814 County
(762) 280-3686 slsmith71@outlook.com

Application Services Unit Consultant

Toni Williams

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Mailing Address

1080 Douglas Rd
Harlem, GA 30814-4416

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.
10/24/2024	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	
			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.

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	0	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	0				
Children Present: 0 Total Children: 0					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 0					

Comments

Congratulations on receiving permission to operate on today, October 24, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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

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.dec.state.ga.us/> 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@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 Initial Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured.

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

Met

Comment

Consultant observed One (1) of one (1) playpens observed meeting safety compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards manufactured in . Consultant discussed safe sleeping requirements with the owner during the inspection visit.

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

N/A

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on site.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Provider does have fire arms in the home. They are stored in the master bedroom in a large black safe with a lock.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2024

Comment

An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home this date.

Comment

Operable smoke detector(s) were observed as required in the home this date.

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

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

Consultant advised the provider to maintain lawn as well as bushes in the play area. The provider was also advised to freshen the paint on the plastic composite equipment.

Correction Deadline: 11/3/2024

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 the fence in some spots had chipped paint and loose from the pole on the left hand side and on the right side had protruding bolts that had more than 2/3 thread showing.

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: 10/24/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper handwashing of children and staff was discussed with the provider during the inspection visit.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Provider on this date.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Licensure

290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)**Met****Comment**

Consultant discussed Business License requirement with the Provider. The Provider has until December 1, 2024 to submit the Business License to consultant.

Comment

Permission to Operate issued on this date. The overall licensed capacity is six (6) children at any given time.

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Animals**Met****Comment**

Appropriate vaccination records were available on this date. The home has two huskies name Nina and Sweet Pea.

Comment

The family home had chickens but once advised the distance requirements decided that they would move the animals until a new coop could be built with the distance requirements. The animals were moved on the day prior to the inspection ending. The Family Child Care Learning Home does not have animals on premises.

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

Consultant discussed appropriate discipline and guidance techniques with the provider.

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

A completed First Aid Kit was observed on this date.

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation. Consultant discussed transportation requirements if/when the facility decides to incorporate transportation. The center will contact their regional consultant and complete the required two (2) hour transportation training prior to transporting children.

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

Two (2) of two (2) Criminal records checks were observed to be complete. Both were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file for the provider and all residents living in the home seventeen (17) years and older.

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

Currently there are no children present in the program. Consultant discussed ratios with the Provider on this date.

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

Currently there are no children present in the program. Consultant discussed direct supervision with the Provider on this date.