



**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:** 2/24/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

**FR-000006450**

**Harris, Veronica K.**

3032 Walt Stephens Road Jonesboro, GA 30236 Clayton County  
(770) 477-2900 jasperv11@comcast.net

Regional Consultant

Kayla Evans

Phone: ()

Fax:

kayla.evans@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Neli Todorova

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/24/2025                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 04/30/2024                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11/29/2023                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

| Ratio Capacity                                            |                  |               |      |             |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------|-------------|-------------------|
| Age Ranges                                                | Children Present | Child For Pay | CAPS | Not for Pay | Provider Children |
| Infant (0-11 mos)                                         | 1                | 2             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| 1 & 2 Years                                               | 3                | 3             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| 3 & 4 Years                                               | 0                | 1             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| School Age(5+) Years                                      | 0                | 0             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 13 Years                                      | 4                | 6             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 18 Years                                      | 4                |               |      |             |                   |
| Children Present: 4 Total Children: 6                     |                  |               |      |             |                   |
| Caregivers/Helpers Present: 4 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2 |                  |               |      |             |                   |

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit is to follow up previous visit and conduct a licensing study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.

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#### 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](http://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.

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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](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) 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.

**Comment**

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

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.19(1)(a)2 - Discussed that the play pen mattress needs to be tight fitting with no gaps.

**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.19(1)(a)3 - Discussed that the play pen sheet needs to be changed daily or more often as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.19(2)(c) - Discussed that no blankets are to be used in play pens used for sleeping.

**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2025**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.08(13) requires documentation for the care of children, related and unrelated, for whom no pay is received to include a notarized statement from the Parent(s) attesting to the non-pay status. It was determined based on review of records as well as Provider statement that one related child was present without a complete notarized No Compensation Affidavit on file.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Consultant shared the No Compensation Form from the agency website and the provider will complete as required.

**Correction Deadline: 3/3/2025**

**Recited on 2/24/2025**

|          |
|----------|
| 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 review of records that there were evidence of lockdown drills in 2024 and January 2025. Additionally there were no fire drills in November and December 2024.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will develop and implement a plan and schedule for conducting the required drills, completing the documentation, keeping the documentation on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 3/7/2025**

**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.

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

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

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**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 observations that there were holes at the top and bottom of the yellow slide. The provider received Technical Assistance on previous visit on April 30,2024.

**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: 3/24/2025**

**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 observations that the yellow slide that measured 40 inches in height had one inch resilient surface when at least three inches were required. Additionally, the swing had approximately one inch of resilient surface when six inches were required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will ensure that there is an adequate resilient surface under and in the fall zone of climbing and swinging equipment. The Home will inspect equipment and resilient surfacing material regularly and repair or replenish as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2025**

**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 and measurements that the fence on the playground measured forty-seven inches in height directly by the entrance of the playground. It was further determined that the fence had gaps more than three and a half inches on the right side at the bottom, back side at the bottom, and front left side of the fence by the gate entrance which posed as an entrapment 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.

**Correction Deadline: 4/18/2025**

**Recited on 2/24/2025**

**Food Service**

**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/30/2024**

**Corrected on 2/24/2025**

**.10(6) - Previous citation was corrected as Consultant observed hand written menu.**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

**Technical Assistance**

Discussed removing attachments from pacifier.

**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2025**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

**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**

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|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Animals</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The Family Child Care Learning Home does not keep animals on premises.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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|                                                                             |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 First Aid &amp; CPR</b> | <b>Technical Assistance</b> |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

**Correction Deadline: 3/10/2025**

**Corrected on 2/24/2025**

**.07(8) - It was observed that the provider had First Aid and CPR with an expiration date of July 2026.**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.07(8) - It was discussed with provider that helper needs current First Aid and CPR Training.

**Correction Deadline: 3/26/2025**

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|---------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Staff Training</b> | <b>Not Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(9) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, and any Provisional Employees or and Employees, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department- approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, record keeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained in the Home by the Provider, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of records that the provider and helper did not have required ten hours of annual training for 2024.

**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: 12/31/2025**

**Recited on 2/24/2025**

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|

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|                                           |            |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

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