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: 5/21/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 11:00 AM

FR-000001939
Sutherland, Ethel
2502 MILLER OAKS CIR Decatur, GA 30035 DeKalb County
(678) 668-1351

Regional Consultant
Jessica Johnson
Phone: ()
Fax: Jessica Johnson
jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: LaTanya Swift

Mailing Address
2502 MILLER OAKS CIR
DECATUR, GA 30035

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
05/21/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
10/15/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/13/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

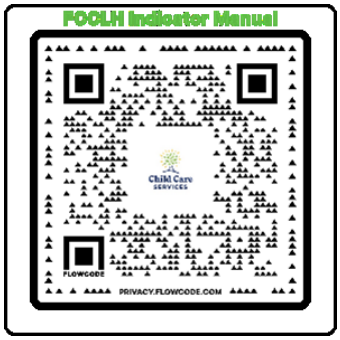
Ratio Capacity

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	3	3	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	0	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	1	1	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	5	5	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	5				

Children Present: 5
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1
Total Children: 5
Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

Comments
On this date, Jessica Johnson (JJ), Consultant, reviewed the visit report with Provider Ethel Sutherland. A joint visit was conduct with Consultant LaTanya Swift.

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.decal.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

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

290-2-3-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.12(11) requires that the toys for children under three are age appropriate. It was determined based on observation that a yellow balloon was observed in the learning space accessible to children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will remove toys that do not meet the requirements and will ensure that all toys for children under three are age appropriate.

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2026

290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR) **Not Met**

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Correction Deadline: 10/22/2025

Corrected on 5/21/2026
.19(1)(a)3 - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as the mattress cover was observed fitted.

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.19(2) - Please ensure adding the infant safe sleep practices to Child 2 file.

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2026

Finding
290-2-3-.19(2)(c) requires that infants shall only sleep in a safety approved crib or other equipment approved for infant sleep as described in 290-2-3-.19(1)(a) and shall not sleep in any other equipment, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the facility asleep or fall asleep in such equipment or on the floor shall be transferred to a safety approved crib or other equipment approved for infant. It was determined based on observation that an infant was observed sleeping in the bouncy chair on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will move infants who fall asleep in equipment other than a safety-approved crib such as a car safety seat, highchair or swing, or on the floor, to a safety-approved crib.

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2026

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

Comment
Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Child # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Emergency Medical Authorization - (.08)(3),Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 2 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2),Infant Feeding Plan - (.10)(4),Name Missing - (.08)(1),Date of Birth Missing - (.08)(1)

290-2-3-.08 Children's Records **Not Met**

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.08(1) - Please ensure that children that drop into the program have the following in their files. The Home must have a current and updated record for each Child in care and for a period of one (1) year after each Child leaves. Such records shall include: identifying information (Child's name, birth date, Parent's name, home and business addresses, telephone numbers); name, address and telephone number of persons, including Child's physician, to contact in emergencies; and name, address, telephone numbers, relationship to Child and to Parent (s) and other identifying information of person(s) to whom the Child may be released.

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2026

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 Child # 1 did not have a current immunization on file as of this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will ensure that an immunization record/signed affidavit is on file for each enrolled Child.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2026

290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.08(3)requires the Home to obtain Parental authorization at the time of a Child's enrollment for emergency medical care when the Parent is not available. It was determined based on a review of records that three of four parental authorization forms for emergency medical care were not on file on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will have authorization for emergency medical care completed by the Parent for Children enrolled.

Correction Deadline: 5/28/2026

Recited on 5/21/2026

Facility

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

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.11(2)(f) - Please ensure that diaper wipes and soaps are kept inaccessible to children in care.

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2026

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 appeared clean and free from hazards.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 10/29/2025

Corrected on 5/21/2026
.13(2)(d) -The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as no hazards were observed on the fence.

Food Service

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

Finding
290-2-3-.10(3) requires a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age be obtained from Parent(s). Instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the main child care area and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on a review of records that Child # 2 did not have the signed written infant feeding plan for children less than one on file on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis.

Correction Deadline: 5/22/2026

Recited on 5/21/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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

Comment
Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

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**

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 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
Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 10/15/2025

Corrected on 5/21/2026
.07(18) - The previous citation was observed corrected as adequate supervision was observed on this date.