



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: 9/3/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

FR-16343

Mitchell, Shannon S

2014 EAST DERENNE AVENUE Savannah, GA 31406 Chatham
County
(912) 712-8288

Regional Consultant

Kayla Coats

Phone: (470) 676-8185

Fax:

kayla.coats@dec.al.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.
09/03/2025	Licensing Study	Support	
05/07/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/30/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

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

Comments

A copy of the visit report was left with the Provider on this date. The CCS Consultant discussed and left a copy of the updated Child Care Weather Watch Chart with the program today. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 09/17/2025

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 user id 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: 9/3/2025 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 9:30 AM Departure: 3:00 PM

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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

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

Comment

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

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

Not Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.19(1)(a)2 - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Provider had replaced the mattresses in six of six pack and plays with 2 inch thick mattresses that had waterproof and washable surfaces.

Finding

290-2-3-.19(1)(a)3 requires that each crib and other equipment approved for infant sleep shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on observation that six of six pack and play sheets were not tight fitting as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Recited on 9/3/2025

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

N/A

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.08(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Children's records were complete with all identifying information required by the Department.

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

Met

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Facility

290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant - Safe Environment

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.13(1)(g) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Rodent droppings had been cleaned and there were no other observable hazards under the bathroom sink.

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.11(2)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Fire and tornado drills were complete with all required information including the number of children who participated in the drills and the length of time that the drills lasted.

Finding

290-2-3-.11(2)(d) requires that hanging cords be inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that two phone chargers were hanging below the electrical outlet, dangling and within reach of a child.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Recited on 9/3/2025

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.11(2)(f) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The home had properly stored or removed any potentially hazardous items from within the reach of the children in care.

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.13(1)(e) prohibits the use of multiple plugs and electric extension cords. Electrical outlets within reach of children shall be plugged or covered. It was determined based on observation that one electrical outlet located above the red plastic child's table and chairs did not have a protective covering.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Recited on 9/3/2025

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 two of two multicolored caterpillar play structures had multiple areas of cracked and broken plastic with sharp edges that presented a safety hazard to the children in care. Additionally, the light blue and grey slide was broken and had a one inch by four inch piece of plastic missing from the slide, exposing sharp edges.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Recited on 9/3/2025

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.13(2)(d) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The security pole on the gate exit had been replaced and no longer presented an escape hazard.

Food Service

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

Met

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>

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

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

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.04(1)(d) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Provider currently had six children enrolled for pay and five children enrolled for no pay. No compensation forms were on file at the center.

Safety and Discipline

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.11(1)(n) - Please ensure that pets are properly caged during times when children are present.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

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)**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**Technical Assistance**

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.07(8) - This citation was observed corrected on this date. All current staff members had evidence of completion of first aid and CPR training as required by the Department.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.07(8)(a) - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that Homes must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training present during field trips, transportation of children, and on the Home's premises whenever any Child is present.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2025

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**Technical Assistance**

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.07(7) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All staff members had evidence on file of the required completion of health and safety orientation.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.07(9) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All staff members had evidence on file of completion of 10 hours of annual training required by the Department.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.07(9)(b)1 - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2025

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.07(19) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were two staff members present in the home while there were 11 children present under the age of five (5) years old.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2025

Corrected on 9/3/2025

.07(18) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Appropriate supervision of all children in care was observed throughout the home on this date.