



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: 3/24/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:15 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

FR-000011496

Rakestraw, Shirley A.

35 WINDSOR WAY Oxford, GA 30054 Newton County
(770) 787-8920

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

Phone: (770) 357-7016

Fax: (770) 357-7015

cassandra.jakes-beasley@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

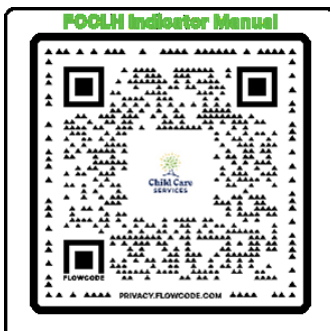
<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient. Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable 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.
03/24/2026	Monitoring Visit	Deficient	
08/15/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/04/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

Ratio Capacity					
Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	0	1	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	3	5	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	2	2	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	5	8	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	5				
Children Present: 5 Total Children: 8					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 4 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 4					

Comments

Background checks were reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 04/08/2026



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.dec.al.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@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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

Summary Report

Date: 3/24/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:15 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

FR-000011496

Rakestraw, Shirley A.

35 WINDSOR WAY Oxford, GA 30054 Newton County
(770) 787-8920

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

Phone: (770) 357-7016

Fax: (770) 357-7015

cassandra.jakes-beasley@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

290-2-3-.09 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.09(5) - The consultant discussed with the provider that children less than three (3) years of age shall not spend more than one-half (1/2) hour of time consecutively in confining equipment, such as swings, highchairs, jumpseats, carriers or walkers. Children shall use such equipment only when they are awake. Such children shall be allowed time to play on the floor daily.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2026

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.12(4) - Previous citation observed in that all equipment was in use in a safe and appropriate manner. The consultant did not observed children placed on the sofa in child restraint seats.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.12(5) - Previous citation corrected in that the wall mirror in the reading area was removed.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.19(1)(a)3 - Previous citation corrected in that no sheets were observed in the pack and play sleeping equipment.

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

Met

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.08(1) - Previous citation corrected in that children enrollment applications were updated.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.08(2) - Previous citation observed in that certificate of immunization was observed for all enrolled children.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.08(8) - Previous citation observed in that the Home provided parent copies of the policy and procedures and documentation placed in children records.

Facility

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.13(1)(g) - Previous citation corrected in that the consultant did not observe any roaches in the sleeping equipment or on the blue table in the child care room.

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.11(2)(h) requires at least one UL Approved smoke detector to be on each floor of the Home and such detectors to be maintained in working order. At least one 2-A:10-B:C fire extinguisher shall be kept in the child care area to be located no more than thirty feet from the kitchen. The extinguisher shall be maintained in working order and shall be inaccessible to the children. It was determined based on observation there was no operable fire extinguisher in the home.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2026

Recited on 3/24/2026

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.13(1) requires that the Home be clean and free from hazards. It was determined based on observation the following hazards were observed:

- The flooring material was lifting in front of the sink and the left and right side of the toilet in the bathroom, on the left side of the blue kidney shaped table in the child care front room and at the entrance to the living room where the children were sleeping and playing creating a possible tripping hazard.
- There were gaps measuring more than 3.5 inches on the rail of the walkway to the entrance of the home. On the left side near the bench, one gap measured at seven inches wide.
- There was splintering wood on the rails on the walkway to the entrance of the home.

Correction Deadline: 4/11/2026

Recited on 3/24/2026

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.13(1)(e) - Previous citation corrected in that based on observation the multiple plug was removed from behind the sleeping equipment in the front room of the home.

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 the following hazards were observed:

- There was one bolt exposed at the joint of the landscape timber on the left side of the climbing structures.
- There were two active ant beds located on the back and left side of the landscape timber surrounding the play structures.

Correction Deadline: 4/4/2026

Recited on 3/24/2026

Food Service

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.10(4) -The consultant discussed with the provider that all baby bottles be clearly labeled with the individual child's name. Formula or breast milk shall be supplied by the Parent daily in bottles. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. Bottles shall be refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. If formula must be provided by the Home, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. Please ensure that bottles are labeled with the child's first and last name.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2026

Health and Hygiene

Finding

290-2-3-.11(1)(j) requires children's hands to be washed with liquid soap and warm running water: immediately upon arrival for the day and re-entering the child care area after outside play; before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, and playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, contact with bodily fluids such as, but not limited to, mucus, saliva, vomit or blood, and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation there was no warm running water in the bathroom.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2026

Recited on 3/24/2026

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.04(1)(d) - Previous citation corrected in that based on observation the home did not care for more than six children during the visit, four children were observed.

290-2-3-.05 Inspections & Investigations

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.05(b) requires the Home to consent to allowing any representative of the Department to enter the premises at any time Children are being cared for in the Home. This consent applies to both scheduled and unscheduled inspections and includes consent for meaningful access to all Staff, all parts of the premises of the Home, all Children present, and all records, to include but not be limited to, audio, video, photos, written documentation, social media posts, and other electronic information. The Department shall have the right to a photocopy or reproduction of any record maintained by or on behalf of the Home as needed for an inspection or investigation related to the initial or continued Licensure of the Home. It was determined that on March 17, 2026, the Family Child Care Learning Home was operating , and the consultant was denied entry upon arrival.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2026

Safety and Discipline

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 observation, the home did not have a vaccination record for a dog that was observed tied up several feet away from the enclosed play area.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2026

Recited on 3/24/2026

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.11(1)(o) - The consultant discussed with the provider that proper sanitation is required for pets and to ensure animals are not a hazard to anyone. No animal that may be vicious is permitted on the premises while children are present. Farm animals cannot be housed within 500 feet of the home.

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2026

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 Transportation(CR)

Met

Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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

Met

Comment

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Provider stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.07(8)(b) requires the Provider, a Provisional Employee or Employee with current evidence of successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid must always be on the Home's premises whenever any Child is present. It was determined that during an attempted visit to the home on March, the helper that was left with the children did not have evidence of successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2026

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

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2025

Corrected on 3/24/2026

.07(16) - Previous citation corrected in that there were only four children present during the visit.

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.