



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: 8/15/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

FR-000014822

Mac Pherson, Rebecca P

104 KUWE TRAIL Guyton, GA 31312 Effingham County
(912) 728-8951

Regional Consultant

Lakeidra Lee

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Fax:

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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.
08/15/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/11/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/25/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

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	1	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	3	4	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	4	5	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	4				
Children Present: 4 Total Children: 5					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

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: 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.

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

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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 on this date.

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked on this date.

Children's Records

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.08(8)(b) - Discussed updating the Home's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Home.

Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Home to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the FCCLH Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Facility

Finding

290-2-3-.11(2)(f) requires that poisons, medicines, cleaning agents and other hazardous materials be in locked areas or inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the bathroom cabinet door was not locked and contained disinfectant accessible to the children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

To ensure the safe storage of hazardous items, the Home Provider will make these items inaccessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Recited on 8/15/2025

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2024

Corrected on 8/15/2025

.11(2)(h) - The previous citation was corrected on this date in that the Consultant observed the smoke detector located in the hallway next to the kitchen was operable.

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****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home on this date.

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

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures on this date.

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. The Consultant observed four children for pay in the home on this date.

Safety and Discipline**290-2-3-.11 Animals****Met****Comment**

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

Comment

Appropriate vaccination records were available on this date.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed on this date.

Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 2****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/15/2002

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

CPR/First Aid -.07(8)

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

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete and satisfactory on this date.

290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR**Not Met****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: 9/14/2025**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 based on a review of records that Staff Member #1 CPR and First Aid certification expired February 23, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Provider will ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present on the Home's premises when children are present.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025**290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed staff qualifications and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.07(9)(a) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, Provisional Employees or and Employees, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined that Staff Member #1 did not have evidence of ten clock hours of diverse annual training for 2024 as required.

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 or within the Georgia Professional Development System (GaPDS). The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2025**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: 9/14/2025**Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision**

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

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date. The Consultant observed four for pay children in the home.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.