



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: 10/16/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:15 AM

Departure: 9:45 AM

FR-000008766

Harris, Brenda D

270 Travelers Rest Road Montezuma, GA 31063 Macon County
(229) 591-2572 BHARRISKIDDIEKARE@GMAIL.COM

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

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Mailing Address

P.O. BOX 713
Montezuma, GA 31063

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
10/16/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/23/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/20/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

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	6	5	0	1	0
3 & 4 Years	0	0	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	7	6	0	1	0
Total Under 18 Years	7				
Children Present: 7 Total Children: 7					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					
Helper Needed					

Comments

Plan developed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/16/2023

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!

Brenda Harris, Program Official

Date

Brandi Mangino, Regional Consultant

Date



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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-.09 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

Corrected on 10/16/2023

.09(5) - Citation corrected.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

Corrected on 10/16/2023

.09(8) - Citation corrected.

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.12(4) requires that all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment shall be used in a safe and appropriate manner by each Provider, Provisional Employee and Employee and child in attendance and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, recommendations, and intended use. It was determined [based on observation that an infant was placed in a bouncer without the safety straps.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will discontinue inappropriate use of furniture/materials/equipment and ensure that all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment is used in a safe manner and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and/or recommendations for intended use.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023

Recited on 10/16/2023

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

Corrected on 10/16/2023

.19(1)(a)3 - Citation corrected.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

Corrected on 10/16/2023
.19(2) - Citation corrected.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

Corrected on 10/16/2023

.19(2)(c) - Citation corrected. The provider has one infant and stated all others sleep on mats.

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Infant Feeding Plan - (.10)(4)

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

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

Not Met

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 one enrolled child had an expired immunization.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will ensure that an immunization record/signed affidavit is on file for each enrolled Child.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023

Facility

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.11(2)(a) requires the Home to have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to fire, severe weather, loss of electrical power or water, and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Home. The Home will have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, continuity of operations, accommodation of infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions. No Home personnel shall impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals. It was determined based on a review of records that provider emergency preparedness plan that was submitted for the administer review did not include natural disaster which may occur at the Home. The Home will have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, continuity of operations, accommodation of infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions The provider printed the template, but it was not filled outm with what would happened in each situation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will complete a written plan for emergencies.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023

Recited on 10/16/2023

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 a review of records that the provider did not have a fire drill for September 2023 as required.

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: 11/15/2023

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 following hazards were accessible to children in care:

-Destin in a book bag

-Trimazdone cream and a stapler on the counter

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: 10/16/2023

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

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed the gate on the playgrond was observed to be chipping wood with exposed nails.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023

Food Service

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

290-2-3-.10(1) requires that meals and snacks are served, with serving sizes dependent upon the age of the child that meet nutritional guidelines as established by the United States Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program. Meals and snacks shall be varied daily, and additional servings of nutritious food shall be offered to children over and above the required daily minimum, if not contraindicated by special diet. It was determined based on observation that cereal was served for breakfast and no fruit/veggie was offered.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will prepare menus and/or serve foods that meet the USDA guidelines and will offer and serve seconds to children.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023

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 infant feeding plans were incomplete in that it did not include the new statement for introduction to solid foods.

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: 10/16/2023

Recited on 10/16/2023

Finding

290-2-3-.10(4) requires 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. It was determined based on observation that bottles were not premade and were made by the provider using the child's bottle with powder formula.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will ensure that requirements for bottles, formula and breast milk are followed and will ensure that feeding procedures are met.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023

Health and Hygiene**290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****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 provider statement that when diapering children's hands were closed with a baby wipe and not warm running water as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

To ensure proper hygiene, all children will wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water as required.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure

290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.04(1)(d) requires a person that provides care for more than six children for pay, related or unrelated, as defined in these rules, shall make application to the Department for a license to operate a Child Care Learning Center, except as provided in 290-2-3-.07(15). It was determined based on observation that the provider had seven children for pay present,

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Family Child Care Learning Home caring for more than six children shall reduce the number of children in care to six. The Family Child Care Learning Home will submit an application for a Child Care Learning Center and receive a license to operate from the Department before caring for more than six children, related or unrelated, for pay.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023**Recited on 10/16/2023**

Policies and Procedures

290-2-3-.14 Required Reporting**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.14(1) requires the Home to report or cause to be reported to the Department within twenty-four (24) hours or the next work day: any death of a Child while in the care of the Home; any serious illness or injury requiring hospitalization or professional medical attention other than first aid of a Child while in the care of the Home; any situation when a Child in care becomes missing, such as but not limited to, a Child who is left on a vehicle, a Child who leaves the Home, playground, or property, or a Child who is left behind on any trip; any fire; any structural disaster; any emergency situation that requires temporarily relocating children; and any time the Home's operating status changes (i.e., open to closed or temporarily closed and temporarily closed to open). It was determined that on September 13, 2023 an attempted visit was made to the Family Child Care Learning Home and the provider reported that they were closed, and in addition closed from September 20, 2023 through September 27, 2023 and the temporary closure was not reported in decal koala.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will ensure a timely report is made to the Department as the licensing rules require.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023

Safety and Discipline

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)**Not Evaluated****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

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

Correction Deadline: 4/2/2023

Corrected on 10/16/2023

.07(15) - Citation corrected.

Finding

290-2-3-.07(18) requires the Home to ensure that an Employee or Provisional Employee, who must be at least sixteen (16) years of age, must be present to assist with supervision whenever more than three (3) children under the age of twelve (12) months are present, more than six (6) children under the age of three (3) years are present or more than eight (8) children under the age of five (5) years are present. It was determined based on observation that the provider had seven children present and all seven children were under the age of three and no helper was present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will ensure than an Employee or Provisional Employee is present to assist with supervision as required by the rules.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023

Finding

290-2-3-.07(17) requires at least one Staff person with a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination shall supervise Children at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means Staff members are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The person(s) supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. Plans shall be made to obtain additional Staff help in cases of emergencies. It was determined based on observation that during breakfast time the provider was not seated within arms length away of the children eating.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will ensure that either the Provider or at least one Staff person with a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination supervises the children at all times as required by the rules. The Home will develop or update a plan to obtain additional Staff help in case of an emergency.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2023