



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: 8/7/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 1:00 PM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

FR-000007828

Giddens, Arlenthia Y.

5136 MCCARTER STATION Stone Mountain, GA 30088 DeKalb
County
(770) 465-5533 yvettegiddens32@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Roslyn Williams

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roslyn.williams@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

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.
08/07/2025	Licensing Study	Deficient	
08/06/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
07/02/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	

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

Comments

Visit completed.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 08/21/2025

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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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a LS:

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.

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

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 sleep. It was determined based on observation that one infant was observed asleep in a bouncy seat and one infant was observed asleep in a pack and play covered with a blanket.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025

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

Comment

There is no pool on the property

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 6

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Release Person Information - (.08)(10),Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1)

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.08(1) requires the Home to 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. It was determined based on the review of records that the Provider did not have documentation of the physician's contact information for child #6 enrollment record.

Correction Deadline: 8/11/2025

Prior Visits: 01/18/2022, 08/06/2021

Recited on 8/7/2025

Comment

290-2-3-.08(8)(a) - 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.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025

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 review of records that the Home did not have the emergency medical authorization on file for Child #6.

Correction Deadline: 8/13/2025

Prior Visits: 07/02/2025

Recited on 8/7/2025

Facility

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

Not Met

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 a book bag with baby wipes was stored on the floor in the play area and accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025

Prior Visits: 07/15/2024, 07/17/2023

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)

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed routine playground maintenance.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) - Routine fence maintenance was discussed with the Provider.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025

Food Service

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.10(4) - Please ensure that all bottles are labeled.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2025

Prior Visits: 07/02/2025

Corrected on 8/7/2025

.11(1)(m) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The consultant observed that children were kept clean, dry, and comfortable.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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.

290-2-3-.05 Inspections & Investigations**Met**

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2025

Prior Visits: 07/02/2025

Corrected on 8/7/2025

.05(e) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The consultant observed that the Provider made no false or misleading statements on this date.

Policies and Procedures

290-2-3-.14 Required Reporting**Met**

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2025

Prior Visits: 07/02/2025

Corrected on 8/7/2025

.14(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant discussed Required Reporting procedures.

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 First Aid Kit**Met****Comment**

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

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**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

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.

290-2-3-.07 Provisional Employees

Met

Comment

290-2-3-.07(22)(c) - Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025

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

Met

Comment

290-2-3-.07(9)(a) - : 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: 9/6/2025

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)

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2025

Corrected on 8/7/2025

.07(18) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date.

Finding

290-2-3-.07(18) 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 the Provider was observed outside the home, talking to a neighbor while four children were napping inside the home and unsupervised.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025