



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!

Janice Halston, Program Official

Date

Stacey Foston, Regional Consultant

Date



**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

(Findings Report)

Date: 7/27/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:05 PM **Departure:** 2:55 PM

FR-35149

Halston, Janice M

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1629 East Duffy Street
Savannah, GA 31404

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

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

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed. Observed two new cribs in the Home.

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

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Comment

An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2023

Corrected on 7/27/2023

.13(1)(e) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The electrical plugs were covered on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) - Discussed cutting the grass on the playground.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

The Provider stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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

Met

Comment

The children were taking a nap during the visit. The Provider 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)

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 a review of records that there were eight children for pay present during the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The provider will reduce the number of children for pay to six. If needed the Provider will obtain the required notarized form to attest to the no pay status of the child.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

Comment

The children were taking a nap during the visit. Discussed the Home's discipline policy.

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

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2023

Corrected on 7/27/2023

.21(1)(b) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Criminal record checks were complete.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2023

Corrected on 7/27/2023

.21(1)(m)3. - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Criminal record checks were complete.

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**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.07(7) requires that the Provider, Employees and Provisional Employees with direct care responsibilities shall complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that the helper did not complete the health and safety training as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Provider will ensure the Helper completes the training. The Provider will develop a plan to ensure that any new Staff hired complete the training as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2023

Recited on 7/27/2023

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.07(15) requires the Home to ensure that the total number of Children not Related to the Provider in the Family Child Care Learning Home, for pay or not for pay, cannot exceed six Children, except that a Provider may care for two additional children who are three years of age or older for two designated one hour periods daily upon approval approved by the Department. It was determined based on a review of records that there were eight children unrelated to the Provider present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The provider will reduce the number of unrelated children to six. If needed the Provider will obtain the required notarized form to attest to the relationship status of the child.

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2023

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.