



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 9/26/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 4:20 PM **Departure:** 5:20 PM

**FR-000011496**

**Rakestraw, Shirley A.**

35 WINDSOR WAY Oxford, GA 30054 Newton County  
(770) 787-8920 rakestraw8920@aol.com

**Mailing Address**

P.O. BOX 563  
OXFORD, GA 30054

**Regional Consultant**

Verlyn Gant

Phone: (404) 591-6059

Fax: (404) 591-6060

verlyn.gant@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Kajora McCoy

**Quality Rated:** ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
09/26/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Support	
09/20/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/31/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

**Ratios/License 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	0	0	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	0	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	0				
Children Present: 0 Total Children: 0 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 8 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 5					

**Comments**

An in-person complaint investigation visit was conducted with the Provider.

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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



### 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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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](http://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)

Shirley Rakestraw, Program Official

Date

Verlyn Gant, Consultant

Date

Kajora McCoy, 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:** 9/26/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 4:20 PM **Departure:** 5:20 PM

**FR-000011496**

**Rakestraw, Shirley A.**

35 WINDSOR WAY Oxford, GA 30054 Newton County  
(770) 787-8920 rakestraw8920@aol.com

**Mailing Address**

P.O. BOX 563  
OXFORD, GA 30054

**Regional Consultant**

Verlyn Gant

Phone: (404) 591-6059

Fax: (404) 591-6060

verlyn.gant@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Kajora McCoy

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

### Facility

#### 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 the following hazards were on the playground:

- There were broken pieces of plastic with sharp edges.
- There was trash and a discarded Coke can.
- There was an exposed nail sticking out of a broken blue toy.
- There was a hole near the middle of the rear fence where yellow jackets were observed to coming out of.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will repair any and all identified outdoor hazards and will monitor playground daily or more often as needed to ensure that the Home's outdoor play area is kept clean and free of hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 9/27/2022**

**Recited on 9/26/2022**

### Health and Hygiene

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

**Defer**

**Defer**

290-2-3-.11(1)(i) - Staff handwashing will be reviewed at next monitoring visit in 2023.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

**Correction Deadline: 9/20/2022**

**Defer**

290-2-3-.11(1)(j)- Children's handwashing will be reviewed at next monitoring visit in 2023.

**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: 9/20/2022**

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

290-2-3-.11(1)(f)- Sanitizing the diapering area will be reviewed at next monitoring visit in 2023.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

To ensure the control of disease transmission, the Home Provider will change diapers in the child's crib or a nonporous surface. The diapering surface will be cleaned and disinfected between use with a single use disposable towel.

**Correction Deadline: 9/20/2022**

<b>Safety and Discipline</b>
------------------------------

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

290-2-3-.11(2)(m) requires written authorization for the Child to receive emergency medical treatment when the Parent is not available, shall be maintained in the vehicle. It was determined based on a review of records that there was no emergency transportation information in the transportation vehicle. It was further determined that the emergency medical information for three of four children was incomplete and there was no emergency medical information on file for one of four children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will obtain copies of parental authorizations and maintain them in the vehicle.

**Correction Deadline: 9/30/2022**

**Recited on 9/26/2022**

<b>Staff Records</b>
----------------------

**Records Reviewed: 8**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 09/01/2001	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 01/02/2002	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 09/01/2001	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 09/01/2001	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 09/01/2001	
Staff # 6	Met

**Records Reviewed: 8**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Date of Hire: 01/02/2002

Staff # 7

Met

Staff # 8

Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 9/20/2022**

**Corrected on 9/26/2022**

**.21(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that based on a review of records the staff in the home had a satisfactory comprehensive records check determination.**

**Correction Deadline: 9/20/2022**

**Corrected on 9/26/2022**

**.21(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that based on a review of records the staff in the home had a satisfactory comprehensive records check determination.**