



**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:** 1/10/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 8:30 AM

**Departure:** 10:00 AM

**FR-24611**

**Day, Elaine E**

344 PINEBROOK DRIVE Valdosta, GA 31602 Lowndes County  
(229) 561-2918 brookscogirl@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Beth Houtz

Phone: (229) 238-2130

Fax: (229) 238-2955

beth.houtz@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

344 PINE BROOK DRIVE  
VALDOSTA, GA 31602

**Quality Rated:** No

<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.
01/10/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/18/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/14/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

**Ratios/License Capacity**

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

**Comments**

During the visit all staff and children records were reviewed. The provider does not transport children.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/10/2023

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.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

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)



#### 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!**

Elaine Day, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz, 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-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR)

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.19(4) requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. The consultant discussed with the provider about using a barrier such as a poster board between sleep mats when they are stored in the cubbies with the bedding on the mats to ensure the bedding does not touch.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

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

Met

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

## Facility

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

Met

#### Comment

Home observed complete emergency drills

#### Comment

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

#### Comment

Operable smoke detector(s) were observed as required in the home this date.

### 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

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. The consultant observed the wood board on the left hand side of the green slide to have splintered wood in places. The provider stated that woodpeckers have been a problem and that the wood has already been replaced once and they are looking for a permanent solution like plywood boards so that they do not have to continuously replace the boards.

**Correction Deadline: 1/20/2023**

## Food Service

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

Met

#### Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk 5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk 2 of 5 Components for snack Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers. The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website: DECAL <http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

## Health and Hygiene

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

Met

#### Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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

Met

#### Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

### 290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

## Licensure

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<b>290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home on this date.

<b>Safety and Discipline</b>
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<b>290-2-3-.11 Animals</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Appropriate vaccination records were available on this date.

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<b>290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

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<b>290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

<b>Staff Records</b>
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<b>290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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<b>290-2-3-.07 First Aid &amp; CPR</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR.

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<b>290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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<b>290-2-3-.07 Staff Training</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Annual training requirement and documentation observed.

<b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b>
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<b>290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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<b>290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

The Provider was observed directly supervising and being attentive to the needs of the children.