



**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:** 5/23/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:30 AM

**Departure:** 12:00 PM

**FR-17136**

**Gerhartz, Michaela M**

6269 Saylor Park Lithonia, GA 30058 DeKalb County  
(404) 552-3470 michelle.mgm@comcast.net

**Region Consultant**

Christina Jennings

Phone:

Fax:

christina.jennings@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

6269 SAYLER PARK  
LITHONIA, GA 30058-6440

**Quality Rated:** No

Compliance Zone Designation			<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.
05/23/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/08/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/09/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

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	1	2	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	3	3	0	1	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	1	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	4	6	0	1	0
Total Under 18 Years	4				
Children Present: 4		Total Children: 7			
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 5		Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2			

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/23/2023

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!**

Michaela Gerhartz, Program Official

Date

Christina Jennings, 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)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.12(7) requires all indoor and outdoor furniture and equipment shall be secured if equipment and furniture is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. Potentially unstable equipment and furniture that might injure a child if not secured include, but are not limited to, televisions, chests of drawers, bookcases, shelving, cabinets and fish tanks. Examples of items not required to be secured include, but are not limited to, child-sized tables and chairs, rocking chairs, and cribs. It was determined based upon observation that the toy kitchen on the right side of the playroom had a pink and purple doll sized feeding chair, several wooden puzzles, and a pink and purple doll sized cradle stacked on top of the toy kitchen causing a potential tipping hazard.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will secure any identified equipment and/or furniture to prevent from tipping or falling over on a child. The Home Provider will ensure that all potentially dangerous equipment is maintained secure.

**Correction Deadline: 5/23/2023**

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

**Facility**

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**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.

**Comment**

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

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

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

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

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) - The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that the barrier was secured along the bottom of the deck.

**Correction Deadline: 5/23/2023**

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<b>Food Service</b>
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**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.10(1) - The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that the CACFP meal pattern requirements were met including but not limited to such as adding fruit to lunch.

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<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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**290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****N/A****Comment**

There are no diapered children currently enrolled in the program.

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

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

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

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

## Safety and Discipline

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**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

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

**290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)** Met

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

## 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)** Met

**Comment**

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