



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/Regulations.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 New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

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Willette Wilson-Thomas, Program Official

Date

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Kesha McNeal, 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:** 9/21/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 3:00 PM    **Departure:** 5:00 PM

**FR-33628**

**Wilson-Thomas, Willette**

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**Regional Consultant**

Kesha McNeal

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Same

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)** **Met**

**Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

### Facility

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

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(2)(a) - Please ensure that the home has an updated written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to fire, severe weather, loss of electrical power or water, and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Home. The Home will have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, continuity of operations, accommodation of infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions. No Home personnel shall impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals.

**Correction Deadline: 10/1/2021**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) - Please ensure that the Home conducts drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Home shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 10/21/2021**

**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)****Met****Comment**

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

**Food Service****290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

290-2-3-.10(8) - Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

**Correction Deadline: 9/21/2021**

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

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

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

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

**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**

Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date.

## Safety and Discipline

**290-2-3-.11 Animals** **N/A**

**Comment**

The Family Child Care Learning Home does not keep animals on premises.

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

**Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

**290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit** **Met**

**Comment**

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home

**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**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Provider stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

**290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR** **Met**

**Comment**

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

**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**

Annual training requirement and documentation observed.

## Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

**Comment**

290-2-3-.07(17) - Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: 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.

**Correction Deadline: 9/21/2021**

**Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)