





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



### 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.decal.ga.gov/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov).

- 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://decal.ga.gov/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)

Lucia Montes, Program Official

Date

Leena Mitchell, 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:** 11/18/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 1:00 PM

**Departure:** 1:45 PM

**FR-14398**

**Montes, Lucia**

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(678) 769-9739 pilarjonchrist@gmail.com

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Regional Consultant**

Leena Mitchell

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A virtual walk through was conducted on this date due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon the virtual walk through, a variety of equipment was observed to be clean, properly secured, and in good repair.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

**Met**

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

### Children's Records

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed the following rule with the Provider on this date: 290-2-3-.08(2) requires the Home to maintain a file for each Child that includes evidence of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunizations; enrollment in the Home may not continue for more than 30 days without such evidence.

**Correction Deadline: 11/18/2021**

### 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**

A virtual walk through was conducted on this date due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The center appeared to be clean, well maintained, and safe from hazardous condition upon virtual walk through.

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**290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)****Met****Comment**

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

<b>Food Service</b>
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**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

290-2-3-.10(8) - Discussed new revision as of October 1, 2020, 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: 11/18/2021**

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures for staff and children during virtual visit.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Provider on this date.

**Comment**

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

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

No children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date.

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

**Comment**

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

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

**Comment**

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

**Comment**

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**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 April 7, 2021.

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff Training** **Defer**

**Defer**

290-2-3-.07(9)-The previous citation was deferred due to the provider having until the end of December 31, 2021 to complete the required 10 hours of annual training. The consultant discussed with the provider to maintain a copy of their completed training certificates for the year 2021 in their personal file or via their Georgia Professional Development System account online.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required annual training for Staff and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested.

**Correction Deadline: 5/7/2021**

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

**Comment**

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

**Comment**

290-2-3-.07(17) - Discussed new revision as of October 1, 2020, 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: 11/18/2021**

**Comment**

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)