



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

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.

- 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)

Michelle Smith, Program Official

Date

Sondra Paster, 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: 8/26/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:50 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

FR-000009530

Smith, Michelle D

520 26th Avenue W Cordele, GA 31010 Crisp County
(229) 417-5042 michellesmith4178@yahoo.com

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 4188
Cordele, GA 31010

Regional Consultant

Sondra Paster

Phone: (478) 314-5803
Fax: (478) 314-5811
sondra.paster@dec.al.ga.gov

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

Care is not provided for any infant required to be in a crib

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 3 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 4 Met

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

Not Met

Finding

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. It was determined based on observation that three of six children enrolled were observed to be without updated immunization records.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will ensure that an immunization record/signed affidavit is on file for each enrolled Child.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2021

290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR)

Met

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Facility

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.11(2)(f) requires that poisons, medicines, cleaning agents and other hazardous materials be in locked areas or inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that disinfectant and cleaning items were observed to be sitting on the edge of the kitchen counter which was accessible to children sitting in the den area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

To ensure the safe storage of hazardous items, the Home Provider will make these items inaccessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2021

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)

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) requires that outside play areas be protected from traffic or other hazards by fencing or other barriers at least four feet in height and approved by the Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children. A fence shall be provided around swimming pools to make them inaccessible when not in use. It was determined based on observation that the provider was observed to be without an enclosed outside play area on this date. The provider stated that the fencing was in the process of being replaced.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will enclose the outside play area(s) with a four-foot high fence or other Department-approved barrier and inspect regularly to ensure fencing material is safe and any hazards identified are repaired or replaced. The Home will install or repair a fence around swimming pools that makes them inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2021

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home 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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.07(8) requires the Home to maintain for the Provider and any Provisional Employee or Employee with direct care responsibilities current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid which have been offered by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and which dealt with emergency care for infants and children. Such training must be completed prior to initial licensure for the Provider and within 90 days from date of hire for Provisional Employees and Employees. The Provider, a Provisional Employee or Employee with current CPR and first aid training must always be on the Home's premises and on any field trip whenever any Child is present. It was determined based on a review of records that the provider was observed to be without approved CPR and first aid training. The provider was observed to have an online course which is not approved by the department.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will obtain the required CPR and first aid training and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested. The Home will ensure that there is always a Staff person on the Home's premises and on any field trip whenever any Child is present.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2021

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

Met

Comment

Discussed staff qualifications and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training

Met

Comment

Annual training requirement and documentation observed for 2020 and 2021.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.