



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 11/3/2021    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 1:55 PM    **Departure:** 2:25 PM

**FR-35255**

**Herchig, Tabitha J**

166 Seaton Ave. Grovetown, GA 30813 Columbia County  
 (706) 723-9582 tjvh76@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Melyn Smith

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 Fax: (706) 434-7640  
 melyn.smith@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★ ★

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                  |               |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 11/03/2021                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |
| 03/29/2021                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |
| 11/12/2020                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |

**Compliance Zone Designation** - 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.

**Good Standing** - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**Support** - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.

**Deficient** - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**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                 | 4                | 4             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| 3 & 4 Years                 | 1                | 1             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| School Age(5+) Years        | 0                | 2             | 0    | 0           | 1                 |
| <b>Total Under 13 Years</b> | 6                | 8             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| <b>Total Under 18 Years</b> | 6                |               |      |             |                   |

|                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Children Present: 6           | Total Children: 9           |
| Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 | Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2 |

**Comments**

A virtual inspection was conducted on November 3, 2021 with the Provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.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)

Tabitha Herchig, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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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 variety of equipment and toys were observed.

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

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

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

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**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.

## Health and Hygiene

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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

**Comment**

The provider stated appropriate 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. The Consultant observed the Provider to provide care for six unrelated children for pay on this date.

## Safety and Discipline

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

**Comment**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

**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.

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

**Defer**

290-2-3-.07(9) - The citation was deferred and will be evaluated at the next regulatory visit due to deadline for ten clock hours of annual training for 2021 not passed, it is December 31, 2021.

**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.

|   |
|---|
| <b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b> |
|---|

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

**Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date during the virtual walk through.