



**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: 5/11/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

FR-53532

Stokes, April M.

75 Pine Hill Circle Camilla, GA 31730 Mitchell County
(229) 395-2333 smartstarhomedc@gmail.com

Region Consultant

Angela Williams-Jackson

Phone:

Fax:

angela.williams-jackson@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Penny Svenson

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
05/11/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/22/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/22/2022	POI Follow Up	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	2	4	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	2	3	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	1	0	0	0	3
Total Under 13 Years	5	7	0	0	2
Total Under 18 Years	5				

Children Present: 5	Total Children: 11
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3	Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2

Comments

The visit was conducted on this date. The findings were discussed with the provider.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/11/2023

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/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

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 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 for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

April Stokes, Program Official

Date

Angela Williams-Jackson, Consultant

Date

Penny Svenson, 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: 5/11/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

FR-53532

Stokes, April M.

75 Pine Hill Circle Camilla, GA 31730 Mitchell County
(229) 395-2333 smartstarthomedc@gmail.com

Mailing Address
Same

Region Consultant

Angela Williams-Jackson

Phone:

Fax:

angela.williams-
jackson@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Penny Svenson

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the provider to please ensure all toys and furniture are organized.

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2023

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

Met

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

Home does not provide swimming activities at this time.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 11

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Child # 6

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Name Missing-.08(13),Date of Birth Missing-.08(13),Phone Numbers-.08(13),Parents Address-.08(13)

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2022

Corrected on 5/11/2023
The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.
Correction Deadline: 9/22/2022

Corrected on 5/11/2023
The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

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 a review of records that one of eight 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. Please ensure the immunization record is on file or an appointment date is scheduled.

Correction Deadline: 5/18/2023

Recited on 5/11/2023

Facility

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

Comment
An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home this date.

Technical Assistance
The consultant discussed with the provider to replace the battery in the one out of two smoke detectors that was beeping while the consultant was present. There was one operable smoke detector.

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2023

290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
The consultant discussed with the provider to please ensure the child care space is free of clutter and that the toys are organized.

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2023

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.13(2)(a) requires that outdoor play areas be kept clean and free of hazards such as exposed sharp corners of concrete or equipment, rust and splinters on equipment, broken glass, open drainage ditches, holes and stagnant water. It was determined based on observation that the following play equipment posed a hazard:

- Steering wheel broken on the red and yellow Little Tikes car
- Three yellow balls were dirty
- One red ball was dirty
- Windshield on red motorcycle was cracked
- Ant bed in between two play houses and near the back entrance door under the black mat

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will repair any and all identified outdoor hazards and will monitor playground daily or more often as needed to ensure that the Home's outdoor play area is kept clean and free of hazards.

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2023

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2022

Corrected on 5/11/2023

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

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 at this time.

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 Discipline(CR)

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Met

Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation at this time.

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

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/22/2022

Corrected on 5/11/2023

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

290-2-3-.07 Provider Qualifications

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.07(5) requires that prior to assignment to children or task, the Provider and all Employees and Provisional Employees must receive initial program orientation. It was determined based on a review of records that the provider and spouse/helper had no documentation of orientation on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will ensure that all Staff have completed the required orientation training and will ensure any new Staff hired complete orientation training as required.

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2023

Recited on 5/11/2023

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.