

**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.dec.state.ga.gov

(Cover Sheet)**Date:** 3/8/2023**VisitType:** EX-Monitoring**Arrival:** 1:45PM**Departure:** 3:55PM**EX-44277 EXMT-14063 EX-1 - Government
Columbus Parks & Recreation Community
Schools - Downtown Elementary**1400 1st Avenue, Columbus GA 31909 Muscogee
County
(706) 225-4652 thies.samantha@columbusga.org**Mailing Address**

Same

Regional Consultant

Rosalyn Elder

Phone: (404) 780-0868

Fax: (770) 232-1931

rosalyn.elder@dec.state.ga.gov

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation			Prevention Action Category	Intermediate Action Category	Dismissal Action Category
3/8/2023	EX-Monitoring	NA	Prevention Level 1 (P1)	Intermediate Level 1 (I1)	Dismissal (D)
			Technical Assistance	Corrective Action Plan	Dismissal
				Office Conference	Disqualification
			Prevention Level 2 (P2)	Intermediate Level 2 (I2)	
			Citation	Fine (Level 1 or 2)	
			Plan of Improvement		
			Prevention Level 3 (P3)	Intermediate Level 3 (I3)	

Staff: Child Ratios

Room Description	Age Groups	Staff Count	Children Count	State Ratio Met	Notes
Cafeteria	, Fives, Six and older	2	13	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 2

#Children Count: 13

Comments:

On March 8, 2023, an (in-person) visit was conducted at the facility for the purpose of the CAPS Health and Safety Monitoring with Ms. Dolores Smith. We discussed the Health and Safety Protocols, inclusive of handwashing and the importance of ensuring the staff is trained for emergency preparedness regarding Active Shooter/Dangerous Person. There are a total of 15 students that are enrolled in the program. As the students transition to the afterschool program, their hands are sanitized prior to receiving the snacks. Handwashing protocols are conducted prior to the eating, between activities and after toileting and/or playtime. After discussion and the review of the documents, the program is operating as approved.

Corrective Action Plan: No Plan Developed



Please refer the website, <http://www.dec.state.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

By signing this report I acknowledge that the report was discussed with me and if there are any missing requirements I am responsible for submitting them as outlined to the GACAPS program.

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.al.ga.gov.

1. Facility name, program 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 standard(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the citation
4. Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date of the visit to the facility.
5. Your refutation will be forwarded to the CCS Exemptions Unit manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 770-293-5977.

Any violation which subjects a child to injury or life threatening situation or continued non-compliance may jeopardize participation in the CAPS program for eligible license-exempt program (government-owned facilities and day camps).

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(Findings Report)**Date:** 3/8/2023**VisitType:** EX-Monitoring**Arrival:** 1:45PM**Departure:** 3:55PM**EX-44277 EXMT-14063 EX-1 - Government
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The following information is associated with a Exemption Monitoring:**Activities and Equipment****EX-HS-.A****Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.A(1) - Provider does provide a daily prescribed program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities such as homework assistance, a variety of games; Uno, Legos, puzzles, building blocks, gym time and outside play that promotes the social, emotional, creative, physical, cognitive, language and literacy development of each child. The Staff provides a variety of teaching methods to accommodate the needs of the children's different learning styles.

EX-HS-.F Equipment & Toys (CS)**Met****Comment**

The equipment and furniture were observed to be properly secured, as applicable. The tables and chairs are wiped down and sanitized with Lysol.

EX-HS-.Q Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities (CS)**N/A****Comment**

The Program does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records**EX-HS-.C****Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.C(1) – The Provider does maintain a file for each child while such child is in care at the program. The file does contain the following: identifying information about the child to include: name, date of birth, gender, address, and names of both Parents, if applicable, cell phone and emergency contact information as well as the person(s) to whom the child may be released. The file also contains a signature from each Parent advising they are aware the program is not licensed and is not required to be licensed.

Exemptions**EX-HS-.X Exemption Requirements (NCP)****Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.X(1) - The Program is in compliance with the posting of the Exemption Approval letter and certificate. Both are adjacent to each other and placed in a prominent area in the main lobby.

Facility

Comment

EX-HS-.B(2) - It was determined through observation, the bathrooms are located adjacent to the child care areas. The supplies are within easy reach for the children and equipped with soap, toilet tissue and single-use towels.

Comment

Fire Safety - A program must be in compliance with applicable laws and regulations issued by the state fire marshal, the proper local fire marshal or state inspector, including a certificate of occupancy if required prior to receiving any children for care. It was determined by the examination of records, the Provider is in compliance with the local authorities. A Fire Inspection was conducted October 5, 2022 by the Columbus Fire and EMS.

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Comment

It was determined through observation that the playground is clean. It is enclosed in a fence and free of any debris and/or hazards.

Health and Hygiene

Comment

No diapered children are enrolled.

Comment

Hand washing was not observed during the visit but proper hand washing rules were discussed.

Comment

Medication is not dispensed.

Policies and Procedures

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance was provided regarding the importance of ensuring the staff is trained for emergency preparedness regarding Active Shooter/Dangerous Person. Also ensuring drills for fire, tornado's, etc. are conducted and documented regularly.

Comment

It was determined that the program provides Parents a copy of the Program's written policies and procedures.

Comment

There were no incidents or injuries that required reporting.

Safety

Comment

No field trips are offered

EX-HS-.E Discipline (CS)	Met
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Comment

Determined age-appropriate discipline is communicated to staff on this date.

EX-HS-.R Transportation (CS)	N/A
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Comment

Program does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

EX-HS-.V Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements (CS)	N/A
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Comment

No safe sleep policies are necessary.

Staff Records

EX-HS-.K	Met
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Comment

EX-HS-.K(1) - It was determined by the observation of records the program does maintain a personnel file on all staff.

EX-HS-.N	Met
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Comment

EX-HS-.N(1) - The Site Coordinator is responsible for the supervision, operation, and maintenance of the program. The Site Coordinator is generally on the premises and if absent at any time during the hours of operation, there is an officially designated person on-site to assume responsibility for the operation of the program.

EX-HS-.D Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks (CS)	Met
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Comment

15.3.2.1 The comprehensive records check must be processed by DECAL, and the comprehensive records check determination letter must be issued by DECAL. Any other fingerprint or records check, including those conducted by other state or federal agencies, will not satisfy the CAPS requirement. It was determined by the observation of records, two (2) out of two (2) employees are compliant regarding the completion of the Criminal Record Checks through DECAL.

EX-HS-.W First Aid & CPR (NCP)	Met
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Comment

EX-HS-.W(1) All Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined by the observation of records, two (2) out of two (2) employees have met the standard criterion regarding the completion of CPR/First Aid training.

EX-HS-.P Staff Training (NCP)	Met
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Comment

EX-HS-.P(4) requires, in the first year of employment and then by calendar year thereafter, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers to attend ten (10) clock hours of training which is task-focused in early childhood education or child development or subjects relating to job assignment and is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined by the observation of records, two (2) out of two (2) employees have completed the annual ten (10) clock hours of training.

Comment

EX-HS-.W(1) All staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment that will count toward required annual training: Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined based on review of records that two (2) out of two (2) staff members have completed the Health and Safety Orientation training.

Staffing and Supervision

EX-HS-.O Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision (CS)

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.