

**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.us

(Cover Sheet)**Date:** 1/8/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 7:15AM **Departure:** 8:30AM**EX-48643 EXMT-14052 EX-1 - Government
Bibb County School District - Howard Middle
School**

6600 Forsyth Road, Macon GA 31210 Bibb County

Mailing Address**Exemption Unit Consultant**

Brianne Walters

Phone: (912) 544-9775

Fax: (912) 544-9774

brianne.walters@dec.state.ga.us

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation			Prevention Action Category	Intermediate Action Category	Dismissal Action Category
1/8/2026	EX-CAPS-Monitoring	Prevention	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)	

Room Description	Age Groups	Staff Count	Children Count	State Ratio Met	Notes
Cafeteria		0	0	Y	
Gym	, Six and older	2	17	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 2

#Children Count: 17

Comments:

The program was in compliance with the approved exemption category.

Please refer to the Exemption page of the website, <https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/Exemptions.aspx> for information regarding 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

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 user id 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 standard number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the standard 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.

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(Summary Report)**Date:** 1/8/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 7:15AM**Departure:** 8:30AM**EX-48643 EXMT-14052 EX-1 - Government**
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The following information is associated with a EX-CAPS-Monitoring:**Activities and Equipment****EX-HS-.A Activities****Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.A - Activities observed to be appropriate and safe for children in care.

EX-HS-.F Equipment & Toys**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.F - Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

EX-HS-.Q - The Program does not provide swimming activities.

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

EX-HS-.C - Observed children's files as required.

Exemptions**EX-HS-.X Exemption Requirements****Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.X - Program operating as approved.

Facility**EX-HS-.B Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.B - Program observed to have adequate toilets, sinks and supplies available.

EX-HS-.L Physical Plant(CS)**Not Met****Finding**

EX-HS-.L(2) requires the Program to 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 that the program did not have a copy of an annual fire marshal inspection report dated within the previous 12 months.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will obtain a copy of the last fire marshal inspection report and keep on file for review. If an inspection has not been conducted within the previous 12 months, the appropriate authority with jurisdiction will be contacted regarding an inspection. The program will ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations by the state fire marshal, proper local fire marshal or state inspector, including a certificate of occupancy, are maintained and met.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

EX-HS-.M Playgrounds(CS)**N/A****Comment**

EX-HS-.M - No playground provided.

Health and Hygiene**EX-HS-.U Diapering Areas & Practices(CS)****N/A****Comment**

EX-HS-.U - No diapered children are enrolled.

EX-HS-.H Hygiene**Not Met****Finding**

EX-HS-H(1)(a-f) requires children's hands to be washed with liquid soap and warm running water (a) upon arrival for care; (b) when moving from one child care group to another; (c) upon re-entering the child care area after outside play; (d) before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food; (e) after toileting and diapering and; (f) playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids, and after contamination by any other means. It was determined by observation that children did not wash hands with liquid soap and running water upon arrival to the program this morning.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 1/8/2026

EX-HS-.I Medications(CS)**N/A****Comment**

EX-HS-.I - Medication is not dispensed.

Policies and Procedures**EX-HS-.J Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.J(2) - Observed evidence of written drills conducted within the Program on this date.

Comment

EX-HS-.J1(a-i) - Observed evidence of written policies and procedures.

EX-HS-.T Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.T - The program has not had any incidents that required reporting.

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

EX-HS-.E - Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

EX-HS-.S Field Trips**N/A****Comment**

EX-HS-.S - No field trips are conducted at the program.

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

EX-HS-.R - No transportation provided.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Comment

EX-HS-.V - No safe sleep policies are necessary.

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

EX-HS-.D - Observed evidence of satisfactory criminal records check determination letters for three current staff.

EX-HS-.G First Aid & CPR(CS)**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.G - Observed evidence of staff training in CPR and first aid on this date.

EX-HS-.K Personnel Records**Technical Assistance****Comment**

EX-HS-.K(1)(a-c) - Observed personal records maintained.

EX-HS-.N Staff Requirements**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.N - Observed a director or person responsible for overall supervision of the program.

EX-HS-.P Staff Training**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

EX-HS-.P(1) - Program had evidence of staff orientation. An updated staff orientation form will be emailed to the program director, which will be completed and kept on file for review of staff records during monitoring visits.

Comment

EX-HS-.P(4)(a-b) - Discussed annual training requirements.

Technical Assistance

EX-HS-.P(4)(a-b) - Discussed staff ongoing training requirements and emailed a copy of the CAPS Health and Safety Standards, as well as directions for locating training in the Georgia Professional Development System (GaPDS).

Every calendar year after the first year of employment, each staff should attend ten hours of training from a Department-approved source. Two (2) hours should be in child development & health and safety related topics and two (2) hours developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices (reading, books, etc.). The remaining hours can be on any child-related topic, with no more than two (2) of the ten (10) hours in business-related topics.

Staffing and Supervision**EX-HS-.O Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision(CS)****Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.O - Program observed to maintain appropriate staff: child ratios.