

**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:** 4/21/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS Monitoring Follow-Up**Arrival:** 10:00AM **Departure:** 11:00AM**EX-43898 EXMT-6405 EX-1 - Government
DeKalb County Schools ASED - McLendon**3169 Hollywood Drive, Decatur GA 30033 DeKalb
County**Mailing Address****Exemption Unit Consultant**

Melissa Malone

Phone: (770) 359-5224

Fax: (770) 302-9130

melissa.malone@dec.state.ga.us

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation			Prevention Action Category	Intermediate Action Category	Dismissal Action Category
4/21/2026	EX-CAPS Monitoring Follow-Up	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		0	0	Y	
Playground		0	0	Y	
Room 101		0	0	Y	
Room 113		0	0	Y	
Room 201		0	0	Y	
Room 203		0	0	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 0

#Children Count: 0

Comments:

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:** 4/21/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS Monitoring Follow-Up**Arrival:** 10:00AM **Departure:** 11:00AM**EX-43898 EXMT-6405 EX-1 - Government**
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The following information is associated with a EX-CAPS-Monitoring FollowUp:

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

Corrected on 4/21/2026

EX-HS-.C(1)(a-d) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Children's records were observed to be complete, immunizations were included in the records.**Exemptions****EX-HS-.X Exemption Requirements****Met**

Corrected on 4/21/2026

EX-HS-.X(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The signed parent agreements were observed on this date.**Policies and Procedures****EX-HS-.J Operational Policies & Procedures****Met**

Corrected on 4/21/2026

EX-HS-.J(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The program provided evidence and dates the emergency drills were conducted.**Staff Records****EX-HS-.G First Aid & CPR(CS)****Not Met****Finding**

EX-HS.G(1)(a-b) requires (a) all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the program's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours; (b) The training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. It was determined based on a review of records that the program could not provide evidence of Pediatric CPR and First Aid training as required for seven of seven staff members.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will ensure all Staff that provide direct care to children obtain pediatric CPR and first aid training within the first 45 days of employment. The training shall be maintained on the Program's premises and must be completed by a certified or licensed health care professional or trainer that deal with the provisions of emergency care to infants and children. develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and pediatric CPR training present, and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and pediatric CPR training by the specified date. The program will ensure that all files including staff training records are available for review by the Department even when the director is not present. All files will be reviewed at the follow-up visit.

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2026

Recited on 4/21/2026

EX-HS-.K Personnel Records

Met

Corrected on 4/21/2026

EX-HS-K(1)(a-c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date.

EX-HS-.N Staff Requirements

Met

Corrected on 4/21/2026

EX-HS-N(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The visit was conducted with the co-director on this date.

EX-HS-.P Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

EX-HS-.P(3)(a-k) requires each staff member with direct care responsibilities shall complete health and safety training and Health and Safety Orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours: (a) prevention and control of infectious diseases; (b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; (c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; (d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; (e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; (f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment;

(g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster, or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility);

(h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants;

(i) precautions in transporting children (if applicable); (j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and (k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on a review of records that the program could not provide evidence of Health and Safety training as required for one of seven staff members.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track Health and Safety orientation training for all employees based on their hire dates. The program will ensure that all files including staff training records are available for review by the Department even when the director is not present. All files will be reviewed at the follow-up visit.

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2026

Recited on 4/21/2026

Finding

EX-HS-P(4)(a-b) requires staff complete annual training (a) Every calendar year after the first year of employment, the Director, Provisional Employees and Employees shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source.

(b) The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include the following:

1. At least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices;
2. At least two (2) hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics, which could include, but not be limited to:

(i) Child development (e.g., developmental domains (cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; approaches to play and learning), discipline and guidance techniques, children with special needs);

(ii) Health (e.g., nutrition and the support of breast feeding, physical activity, prevention and control of illnesses and infectious diseases, immunizations, prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions, cleanliness, sanitation, and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants);

(iii) Safety (e.g., prevention of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) which includes Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and the use of safe sleeping practices, medication administration, injury control and prevention, transportation, handling and storage of hazardous materials, identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic, and emergency preparedness planning and response);

(iv) Child abuse and neglect (e.g., identification and reporting, meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children, prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment).

3. No more than two (2) of the required ten (10) hours in business-related topics (e.g., parental communication, recordkeeping, management, business planning). It was determined based on a review of records that the program could not provide evidence of annual training as required for seven of seven staff members.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed. The program will ensure that all files including staff training records are available for review by the Department even when the director is not present. All files will be reviewed at the follow-up visit.

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2026

Recited on 4/21/2026