

**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:** 1/13/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 1:45PM **Departure:** 3:35PM**EX-43904 EXMT-6411 EX-1 - Government
DeKalb County Schools ASED - Narvie J. Harris
Theme**3981 McGill Drive, Decatur GA 30034 DeKalb
County**Mailing Address**

Same

Exemption Unit Consultant

Sarah Benton

Phone: (770) 357-5103

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sarah.benton@dec.state.ga.us

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation			Prevention Action Category	Intermediate Action Category	Dismissal Action Category
1/13/2026	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
Cafe	, Fours, Fives, Six and older	2	20	Y	
Gym		0	0	Y	
Playground		0	0	Y	
Room 101		0	0	Y	
Room 107		0	0	Y	
Room 208		0	0	Y	
Room 300		0	0	Y	
Room 304		0	0	Y	
Room 404		0	0	Y	
Room 406		0	0	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 2

#Children Count: 20

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:** 1/13/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 1:45PM**Departure:** 3:35PM**EX-43904 EXMT-6411 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****N/A****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 based on a review of records that the program did not have a recent fire marshal inspection within the last 12 months. The last inspection available was dated March 20, 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will obtain appropriate approvals, and 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: 2/10/2026

EX-HS-.M Playgrounds(CS)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

EX-HS-.M(1) - Observed the outdoor play area fenced. Discussed the gaps at the bottom of the gate near the bus drive.

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**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.H - Hand washing was not observed during the visit but proper hand washing rules were discussed.

EX-HS-.I Medications(CS)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

EX-HS-.I(1) - Program is not currently dispensing medication. Discussed requirements with the director regarding authorization and dispensing records.

Policies and Procedures**EX-HS-.J Operational Policies & Procedures****Not Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.J(2) - Observed evidence of drills during the school day. Discussed ensuring that drills are also completed during the after school program.

Finding

EX-HS-.J1(a-i) requires the Program to establish and implement written policies and procedures that describe the Program's operations as follows: (a) The exclusion of children with contagious illness; (b) Notification of parents in the event their child becomes ill while at the facility; (c) The notification of all parents of enrolled children when a reportable contagious illness is present in the facility; (d) The prevention of and response to food and allergic reactions; (e) Emergency preparedness and response. A written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the program. The program will have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and will include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions. Such plan shall include assurance that no Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals; (f) The handling and appropriate disposal of bodily fluids and storage of hazardous materials (soiled clothing and bedding); (g) Recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; (h) A description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the program, to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care; (i) A description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children. It was determined based on observation that the following policies were not observed within the policies observed: a, b, c, d, g and i.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will revise their policies and procedures to include all required information and update as needed.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026

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 - Observed appropriate discipline on this date.

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**EX-HS-.V Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CS)****N/A****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 Criminal records check.

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**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.K - 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(4)(a-b) - All program staff completed 10 hours of training in 2025. Discussed ensuring that training is diverse and varied. Additionally, discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

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

EX-HS-.O - Adequate supervision observed on this date.