

**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:** 10/2/2025**VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 3:05PM**Departure:** 5:20PM**EX-43889 EXMT-6396 EX-1 - Government
DeKalb County Schools ASED - School of Arts**3131 Old Rockbridge Road, Avondale Estates GA
30002 DeKalb County**Mailing Address**

Same

Exemption Unit Consultant

Melissa Malone

Phone: (770) 359-5224

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melissa.malone@dec.state.ga.us

Joint with:

Room Description	Age Groups	Staff Count	Children Count	State Ratio Met	Notes
Cafe	, Six and older	2	24	Y	
Gym	, Six and older	3	16	Y	
Playground		0	0	Y	
Room 704		0	0	Y	
Room 705	, Six and older	1	8	Y	
Room 706	PreK	2	7	Y	
Room 712		0	0	Y	
Room 716	, Six and older	1	3	Y	
Room 802	, Six and older	1	14	Y	
Room 803		0	0	Y	
Room 804		0	0	Y	
Room 810		0	0	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 10

#Children Count: 72

Comments:

The child care program is 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:** 10/2/2025**VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 3:05PM**Departure:** 5:20PM**EX-43889 EXMT-6396 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 appropriate

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

EX-HS-.F - Equipment Observed Secured

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

EX-HS-.Q - No Swimming Activities Provided

Children's Records**EX-HS-.C Children's Records****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

EX-HS-.C(2) - The program will ensure they have access to immunization records, maintain files for review by the Department.

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

EX-HS-.X(1) - The required posted notices were observed on this date.

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

EX-HS-.B - Toilets and sinks 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 could not produce evidence of a recent fire inspection as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The program will obtain appropriate approvals and is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations by the state fire marshal, proper local fire marshal, or state inspector, including a certificate of occupancy. All files including a recent Fire Inspection report will be reviewed at the follow up visit.

Correction Deadline: 11/3/2025

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

EX-HS-.M(3) - The program will redistribute and fluff the resilient surfacing in the fall zones on both playgrounds.

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

EX-HS-.U - No diapered children enrolled

EX-HS-.H Hygiene**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.H - Hand washing not observed - hand washing discussed

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

EX-HS-.I - Medication not dispensed

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

EX-HS-.J - Conducted drills documented

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

EX-HS-.T - No incidents/injuries requiring reporting

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

EX-HS-.E - Observed Age appropriate learning environment

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

EX-HS-.S - No field trips

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

EX-HS-.R - No Routine Transportation Provided

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

EX-HS-.V - No infants enrolled

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

EX-HS-.D(1) - A review of records indicated that 100% of the staff completed a Criminal Records Check. All staff members had a Satisfactory Determination.

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 none of the 21 staff members could provide evidence of Pediatric CPR and First Aid training as required.

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. All staff files including CPR and First Aid will be reviewed at the follow up visit.

Correction Deadline: 11/3/2025

EX-HS-.K Personnel Records**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.K - Personnel Records maintained

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

EX-HS-.N - Director available

EX-HS-.P Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

EX-HS-.P(3)(a-k) requires each staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training and Health and Safety Orientation training. Each staff member with direct care responsibilities shall complete 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. The training must address the following health and safety topics:

- (a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunization)
- (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;
- (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 12 of 21 staff members did not complete Health and Safety training within the first 90 days of hire as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The program will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates. All staff files including Health and Safety training will be reviewed during the follow up visit.

Correction Deadline: 11/3/2025

Finding

EX-HS-P(4)(a-b) requires, staff complete annual training (a) Every calendar year after the first year of employment, the Provider, 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 the review of records that none of the 21 staff members have completed annual training as required.

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. All staff files including annual training will be reviewed during the follow up visit.

Correction Deadline: 11/3/2025

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

EX-HS-.O - Observed-Appropriate Staff: Child Ratios