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.decal.ga.gov

(Cover Sheet)

Date: 1/1/0001 **VisitType:** **Arrival:** **Departure:**

Exemption Unit Consultant

Phone: (912) 536-6881
Fax:

Mailing Address

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation		
7/20/2026	EX-CAPS-Monitoring	Prevention
7/20/2026	EX-CAPS-Monitoring	Prevention

Prevention Action Category	IntermediateAction Category	Dismissal Action Category
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 (Level1 or 2)	
Plan of Improvement		
Prevention Level 3 (P3)	**Intermediate Level 3 (I3)**	

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

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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)

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The following information is associated with a EX-CAPS-Monitoring:

Exemptions

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

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

Facility

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

Not Met
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 the program did not have a copy of a fire marshal inspection report on file dated within the last 12 months.

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: 7/20/2026

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

Technical Assistance
EX-HS-.M(2) - Discussed that the pour-in rubber surfacing on the playground should be monitoring to ensure the surfacing does not continue to deteriorate. Any holes in the surface should be filled appropriately to prevent tripping hazards.

Technical Assistance
EX-HS-.M(2) - The program equipment was clean and free of hazards.

Policies and Procedures

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

Not Met
EX-HS-.J(2) requires programs to conduct drills for fire, tornado, 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; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The program shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on observation that documentation of fire drills was not conducted and kept on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The program will conduct the drills as required and maintain the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2026

Safety

EX-HS-.S Field Trips **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
EX-HS-.S(1) - Field trip forms observed and discussed with staff.

Technical Assistance
EX-HS-.S(1) - No field trips are conducted at the program.

EX-HS-.R Transportation(CS) **Met**

Technical Assistance
EX-HS-.R(1)(a) - The program is provided transportation for field trips by Islands YMCA. The vehicle was not maintained on site.

Technical Assistance
EX-HS-.R(7)(c) - Observed transportation checklists complete.

Technical Assistance
EX-HS-.R(7)(c) - The program had evidence of field trip transportation forms in an approved format with appropriate documentation. Discussed with staff that there should be clear and understandable checks/marks by each child's name to indicate that they were visually checked on/off at each location or were not present for the field trip.

Staff Records

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

Met
EX-HS-.D(1) - Evidence of satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letters on file for five current employees.

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

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

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met
EX-HS-.O(1) - Appropriate staff child ratios and supervision observed on this date.