

**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.al.ga.gov

(Cover Sheet)**Date:** 3/3/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 1:50PM **Departure:** 3:50PM**EX-44269 EXMT-14028 EX-1 - Government
Columbus Parks & Recreation @ South
Columbus Elementary ASP**1964 Torch Hill Road, Columbus GA 31903
Muscogee County**Mailing Address**

Same

Exemption Unit Consultant

Rosalyn Elder

Phone: (404) 780-0868

Fax: (770) 232-1931

rosalyn.elder@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with:

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			<u>Prevention Action Category</u>	<u>IntermediateAction Category</u>	<u>Dismissal Action Category</u>
3/3/2026	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 (Level1 or 2)	
			Plan of Improvement		
			Prevention Level 3 (P3)	Intermediate Level 3 (I3)	

<u>Room Description</u>	<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>Staff Count</u>	<u>Children Count</u>	<u>State Ratio Met</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Classroom 5	, Fives, Six and older	3	11	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 3

#Children Count: 11

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.

**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.al.ga.gov

(Summary Report)**Date:** 3/3/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 1:50PM**Departure:** 3:50PM**EX-44269 EXMT-14028 EX-1 - Government
Columbus Parks & Recreation @ South
Columbus Elementary ASP**1964 Torch Hill Road, Columbus GA 31903
Muscogee County**Mailing Address**

Same

Exemption Unit Consultant

Rosalyn Elder

Phone: (404) 780-0868

Fax: (770) 232-1931

rosalyn.elder@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with:

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****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

EX-HS-.X(1) - Please ensure that the exemption certificate is posted adjacent to the approval letter in a clearly visible and prominent area.

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)**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.L - Observed approval from the Department, local zoning authorities, fire safety agencies and local building authorities on this date.

EX-HS-.M Playgrounds(CS)**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.M - Playground appears clean and well maintained.

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 was not observed during the visit but proper hand washing rules were discussed.

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 - 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 - Observed appropriate discipline on this date.

EX-HS-.S Field Trips

N/A

Comment

EX-HS-.S - No field trips are offered.

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)

Met

Comment

EX-HS-.V - No infants enrolled in the program.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 3

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

EX-HS-.P(4)-Annual Training 10 Hours

Staff # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

EX-HS-.P(4)-Annual Training 10 Hours

Staff # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

EX-HS-.P(4)-Annual Training 10 Hours

Comment

EX-HS-.D - Observed evidence of Criminal records check.

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 three of three staff members did not have valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid certifications, and the training they completed was online only, lacking the required in-person, instructor-led hands-on skills component

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.

Correction Deadline: 4/7/2026**Finding**

EX-HS.G(2)(a-d), requires (a) when any child is present on the premises, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver staff present shall be trained in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid. (b) There must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. (c) During any field trip or transportation of children, there must always be a staff member present who has current evidence of the successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid. (d) the Program Director must have current evidence of successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid at all times. It was determined based on a review of records, that 50% of the staff members did not have valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid certifications, and the training they completed was online only, lacking the required in-person, instructor-led hands-on skills component.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will ensure that at least (50%) of staff are trained in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid. The Program will ensure that during any field trip or transportation of children, there must always be a staff member who is present with current evidence of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid.

Correction Deadline: 4/7/2026**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.

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 by a review of records that three of three staff members did not complete the required 10 hours of annual training.

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.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2026

		Staffing and Supervision
--	--	---------------------------------

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

Met

Comment

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