

**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:** 4/16/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 3:15PM**Departure:** 5:05PM**EX-43916 EXMT-6423 EX-1 - Government
DeKalb County Schools ASED - Stone Mountain**6720 James B. Rivers Drive, Stone Mountain GA
30083 DeKalb County**Mailing Address****Exemption Unit Consultant**

Melissa Malone

Phone: (770) 359-5224

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melissa.malone@dec.state.ga.us

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation			Prevention Action Category	Intermediate Action Category	Dismissal Action Category
4/16/2026	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	, Fives, Six and older	1	11	Y	
Playground		0	0	Y	
Room 26		0	0	Y	
Room 33		0	0	Y	
Room 4		0	0	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 1

#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.

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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 - A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the Program.

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(2) - An after school staff member has access to immunizations on this date.

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

EX-HS-.X(2) - The parent agreement was observed on this date.

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 administrative review that the program did not have a current Fire Inspection on file that was conducted recently, within 12 months as required.

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. All files including municipality approvals will be reviewed during the follow up visit.

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

EX-HS-.M - Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

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

EX-HS-.U - No diapered children are enrolled.

EX-HS-.H Hygiene	Met
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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
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Comment

EX-HS-.I - Medication is not dispensed.

Policies and Procedures

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

EX-HS-.J - Observed evidence of written policies and procedures.

EX-HS-.T Required Reporting	Met
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Comment

EX-HS-.T - There were no incidents or injuries that required reporting.

Safety

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

EX-HS-.E - Staff were observed to maintain an age appropriate learning environment on this date.

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

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

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

EX-HS-.R - Program does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

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

Staff Records

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

EX-HS-.D - Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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 administrative review that five of six staff members could not provide evidence of completing CPR and First Aid Training as required.

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

Correction Deadline: 4/16/2026

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.

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 administrative review that six of six staff members did not complete Health and Safety training within 90 days of hire as required.

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. All staff trainings including Health and Safety will be evaluated at the follow up visit.

Correction Deadline: 4/16/2026

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 administrative five of five staff members did not complete 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 records and trainings will be reviewed at the follow up visit.

Correction Deadline: 4/16/2026

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

EX-HS-.O - Program observed to maintain appropriate staff: child ratios.