

**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:** 3/10/2025**VisitType:** EX-Monitoring**Arrival:** 2:00PM**Departure:** 4:15PM**EX-44264 EXMT-14064 EX-1 - Government
Columbus Parks & Recreation Community
Schools - Lonnie Jackson Academy**4601 Buena Vista Road, Columbus GA 31907
Muscogee County
(706) 225-4652 thies.samantha@columbusga.org**Mailing Address**

Same

Regional Consultant

Rosalyn Elder

Phone: (404) 780-0868

Fax: (770) 232-1931

rosalyn.elder@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation			Prevention Action Category	IntermediateAction Category	Dismissal Action Category
3/10/2025	EX-Monitoring	NA	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)	

Staff: Child RatiosComments:

On March 10, 2025, an (in-person) visit was conducted at the facility for the purpose of the CAPS Health and Safety Monitoring.

Corrective Action Plan:No Plan Developed

Please refer the website, <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>, for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about 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

By signing this report I acknowledge that the report was discussed with me and if there are any missing requirements I am responsible for submitting them as outlined to the GACAPS program.

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@dec.al.ga.gov.

1. Facility name, program number and visit date
2. Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
3. Specific standard(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the citation
4. Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date of the visit to the facility.
5. Your refutation will be forwarded to the CCS Exemptions Unit manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 770-293-5977.

Any violation which subjects a child to injury or life threatening situation or continued non-compliance may jeopardize participation in the CAPS program for eligible license-exempt program (government-owned facilities and day camps).

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(Findings Report)**Date:** 3/10/2025**VisitType:** EX-Monitoring**Arrival:** 2:00PM**Departure:** 4:15PM**EX-44264 EXMT-14064 EX-1 - Government
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The following information is associated with a Exemption Monitoring:**Activities and Equipment****EX-HS-.A****Met****Comment**

A daily planned program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities observed with various teaching methods to accommodate different learning styles.

EX-HS-.F Equipment & Toys (CS)**Met****Comment**

The equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable. Tables and chairs are wiped down and sanitized on a daily basis.

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

The Program does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records**EX-HS-.C****Met****Comment**

Observed children's files as required.

Exemptions**EX-HS-.X Exemption Requirements (NCP)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

EX-HS-.X(1) - Technical assistance provided regarding the posting of the exemption approval letter and certificate to be placed in a prominent area in the main lobby.

Comment

EX-HS-.X(4) - It was determined through the observation of records the provider is in compliance with authorities on this date. Compliance with the local fire safety agencies and building authorities have been established.

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

Bathrooms are located adjacent to child care areas and rooms.

EX-HS-.L Physical Plant (NCP)**Met****Comment**

The facility appears clean and well maintained.

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

The Playground's were observed to be clean and in enclosed in several fences, however the back playground's fence (11th panel) has a large gap at the top that is more than 3 inches. Technical assistance was provided advising the importance of ensuring the fence is fixed and in good repair. A follow-up will be conducted during the next CAPS Health and Safety Monitoring visit.

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

No diapered children are enrolled.

EX-HS-.H Hygiene (NCP)**Met****Comment**

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

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

Medications are not dispensed.

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

Observed evidence of fire and tornado drills conducted on this date.

Comment

EX-HS-.J(1)(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) 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; (i) provide to Parents a copy of the Program's written policies and procedures. It was determined based on review of records the Program is in compliance and all of the required standards are included in the written policies and procedures.

EX-HS-.T Required Reporting (NCP)**Met****Comment**

There were no incidents or injuries that required reporting.

Safety

EX-HS-.S	N/A
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Comment

No field trips are conducted at the program.

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

Determined age-appropriate discipline is communicated to staff on this date.

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

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

No safe sleep policies are necessary.

Staff Records

EX-HS-.K	Met
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Comment

EX-HS-.K(1) - It was determined by the observation of records the program does maintain a personnel file on all staff.

EX-HS-.N	Met
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Comment

EX-HS-.N(1) - The Site Coordinator is responsible for the supervision, operation, and maintenance of the program. The Site Coordinator is generally on the premises and if absent at any time during the hours of operation, there is an officially designated person on-site to assume responsibility for the operation of the program.

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

Evidence of satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letters on file for employees and all residents age 17 and older.

EX-HS-.W First Aid & CPR (NCP)	Met
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Comment

Observed evidence of staff training in CPR and first aid on this date.

EX-HS-.P Staff Training (NCP)	Met
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Comment

Observed annual ten hour training for staff members on this date. One staff member is still within 90 days of employment.

Comment

Observed initial orientation for all staff on this date.

Comment

Observed training for all staff members on this date.

Staffing and Supervision

Comment
Adequate supervision observed on this date.