

**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.gov

(Cover Sheet)**Date:** 3/17/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS Monitoring Follow-Up**Arrival:** 9:35AM**Departure:** 10:40AM**EX-50371 EXMT-15477 EX-1 - Government
F.A.S.T ASpire**11365 Crabapple Road, Roswell GA 30075 Fulton
County**Mailing Address****Exemption Unit Consultant**

Keia Cole

Phone: (678) 717-5146

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keia.cole@dec.state.ga.gov

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation			Prevention Action Category	Intermediate Action Category	Dismissal Action Category
3/17/2026	EX-CAPS Monitoring Follow-Up	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
Room 109		0	0	Y	
Room 110		0	0	Y	
Room 119		0	0	Y	
Room 209		0	0	Y	
Room 214		0	0	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 0

#Children Count: 0

Comments:

CAPS follow-up monitoring visit. 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:** 3/17/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS Monitoring Follow-Up**Arrival:** 9:35AM**Departure:** 10:40AM**EX-50371 EXMT-15477 EX-1 - Government
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The following information is associated with a EX-CAPS-Monitoring FollowUp:**Children's Records****EX-HS-.C Children's Records****Met****Corrected on 3/17/2026****EX-HS-.C(2) - The previous citation was corrected and completed on this date.****Facility****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 review of records that the Program did not have a completed Fire Marshal inspection.

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. A follow-up will be completed during the next monitoring visit for re-evaluation.

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2026**Recited on 3/17/2026****EX-HS-.M Playgrounds(CS)****Not Met****Finding**

EX-HS-.M(1) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a 4 four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. If the outdoor play space has no fence or barrier, the program official must submit a plan to ensure children are protected from vehicular traffic, water hazards, and any other potential hazards while participating in outdoor play. It was determined based on observation that the Playground gate did not have a working lock.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Program will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use. A follow-up will be completed during the next monitoring visit for re-evaluation

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2026**Recited on 3/17/2026**

Finding

EX-HS-.M(3) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Program to ensure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the Playground did not have resilient surface under the two green slides and the rock climbing wall. Numerous exposed tree roots were observed to be on the Playground of which could cause tripping.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency. A follow-up will be completed during the next monitoring visit for re-evaluation

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2026

Recited on 3/17/2026

Staff Records

EX-HS-.N Staff Requirements

Met

Corrected on 3/17/2026

EX-HS-.N(1) - The previous citation was corrected and completed on this date.

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 review of records that four out of four staff members were missing the completion of the Health and Safety orientation training.

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. A follow-up will be completed during the next monitoring visit for re-evaluation.

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2026

Recited on 3/17/2026

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 review of records that four out of four staff members did not have evidence of 10 additional hours of child-related task-focused training, including the two hours of language literacy 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. A follow-up will be completed during the next monitoring visit for re-evaluation.

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2026

Recited on 3/17/2026