

**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:** 5/7/2024**VisitType:** EX-Monitoring**Arrival:** 3:10PM**Departure:** 5:00PM**EX-42694 EXMT-12487 EX-1 - Government
Cobb County District ASP - Austell Elementary**5600 Mulberry Street, Austell GA 30106 Cobb
County
(770) 819-5804 darilynn.bernard@cobbk12.org**Mailing Address**

Same

Regional Consultant

Nilia Lalin

Phone: (770) 405-7929

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nilia.lalin@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation			Prevention Action Category	IntermediateAction Category	Dismissal Action Category
5/7/2024	EX-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)	

Staff: Child Ratios

Room Description	Age Groups	Staff Count	Children Count	State Ratio Met	Notes
Cafeteria	, Six and older	3	27	Y	
Playground		0	0	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 3

#Children Count: 27

Comments:

The Specialist met with Ms. Bernard, program director, and the co-director, Ms. Washington, for the purpose of completing a CAPS Monitoring Visit.

Corrective Action Plan:Developed This Date

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:** 5/7/2024**VisitType:** EX-Monitoring**Arrival:** 3:10PM**Departure:** 5:00PM**EX-42694 EXMT-12487 EX-1 - Government
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The following information is associated with a Exemption Monitoring:**Activities and Equipment****EX-HS-.F Equipment & Toys (CS)****Met****Comment**

A variety of equipment and age appropriate activities were observed at the program.

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

Program does not provide swimming activities.

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

Observed completed children's enrollment information, including attendance records. The program kept the children's immunization at the school main office.

Exemptions**EX-HS-.X Exemption Requirements (NCP)****Not Met****Finding**

EX-HS-.X(1) requires a program granted an exemption to post in a prominent place near the front entrance of the facility both a copy of the exemption approval letter issued by the department and a notice provided by the department that will notify a parent or guardian that the program is not licensed and is not required to be licensed by the state. It was determined based on observation that the exemption approval letter and certificate were not posted by the program's main entrance.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The program will post the exemption approval letter and certificate by the program's main entrance.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024**Finding**

EX-HS-.X(2) requires when a parent or guardian initially registers a child with an exempt program, the parent or guardian shall sign a form indicating the parent or guardian has been advised and understands that the program is not licensed and is not required to be licensed by the state. It was determined based on review of records that the program did not submit a form signed by parents indicating that the parent was advised and understands that the program is not licensed and not required to be licensed by Bright from the Start.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will require parents or guardians to sign a form indicating that they been informed and understand that the program is not licensed or required to be license by bright from the Start.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Finding

EX-HS-.X(4) requires the program to comply with local, regional, and state health department, fire marshal, fire prevention, and building/zoning guidelines. It was determined based on review of records that the program did not submit a fire inspection report for review.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The program will comply with the fire marshal guidelines and submit a fire inspection report to this department during the next monitoring visit.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

	Facility
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EX-HS-.B	Met
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Comment

The bathrooms were observed to be clean and equipped with liquid soap, running water, and hand dryers.

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

Program appears clean and well maintained.

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

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

There were no children enrolled in the program on this date. Proper diaper facilities were observed with warm running water and proper ventilation.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

EX-HS-.I Medications (CS)	Met
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Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures. The child's medication and signed parent authorization was kept in a the nurses office.

	Policies and Procedures
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Finding

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 documentation that the program had incomplete policies and procedures in evidence that letters a, b, c, d, f, and g were not met.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will establish and implement policies and procedures that will include components in in letters a, b, c, d, f, and g.

Correction Deadline: 5/12/2024

EX-HS-.T Required Reporting (NCP)

Met

Comment

There were no incidents or injuries that required reporting.

Safety**EX-HS-.S**

N/A

Comment

No field trips are offered

EX-HS-.E Discipline (CS)

Met

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain an age appropriate learning environment on this date.

EX-HS-.R Transportation (CS)

N/A

Comment

Program does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**EX-HS-.V Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements (CS)**

N/A

Comment

No infants are enrolled.

Staff Records

Finding

EX-HS-.K(1) requires the Program to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation; It was determined based on review of records that the program did not maintain a personnel file that contained identifying information on all employees.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will maintain a personnel file on all employees that will include identifying information.

Correction Deadline: 5/12/2024

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

EX-HS-.W First Aid & CPR (NCP)**Not Met****Finding**

EX-HS-.W(1) requires Program Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid 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. The Program shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on review of records that the program didn't submit first aid and CPR training certification for review.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The program will complete and submit first aid and CPR training certification during the next monitoring visit.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2024

EX-HS-.P Staff Training (NCP)**Not Met****Finding**

EX-HS-.P(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Program orientation prior to assignment to children or task. It was determined based on review of records that six out of six staff members did not receive an Initial Program Orientation prior to assignment to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The program will maintain written documentation of Initial Program Orientation in the staff file prior to assignment to children.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Finding

EX-HS-.P(3) requires each staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment that will count toward required annual training: Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined based on review of documentation that five out of six staff members did not complete the 10 hours health and safety training within 90 days of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Program will ensure that staff members complete the health and safety training within 90 days of employment and submit to the department for review when requested. The specialist will follow up with during the next monitoring visit.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2024

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

Program observed to maintain appropriate staff: child ratios.