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.decal.ga.gov

(Cover Sheet)

Date: 9/3/2025 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring **Arrival:** 3:50PM **Departure:** 6:00PM

EX-42735 EXMT-12558 EX-1 - Government
Cobb County District ASP – Powder Springs Elementary School

4570 Grady Grier Drive, Powder Springs GA 30127
Cobb County
(770) 222-3746 sharee.phillips@cobbk12.org

Mailing Address

,

Exemption Unit Consultant

Nilia Lalin

Phone: (770) 405-7929
Fax: (404) 591-4949
nilia.lalin@decal.ga.gov

Joint with:

Compliance Zone Designation		
9/3/2025	EX-CAPS-Monitoring	Prevention

Prevention Action Category	IntermediateAction Category	Dismissal Action Category
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)**	

Room Description	Age Groups	Staff Count	Children Count	State Ratio Met	Notes
1092	PreK	1	4	Y	
2017	, Six and older	2	24	Y	
2022	, Fives, Six and older	2	24	Y	
2048	, Six and older	1	1	Y	
Cafeteria		0	0	Y	
Gym	, Six and older	2	8	Y	
Library		0	0	Y	
Media Center		0	0	Y	
Playground		0	0	Y	
Playground 3rd to 5th gr.		0	0	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0 #Staff Count: 8 #Children Count: 61

Comments:
The program was operating within the exemption approval.

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)

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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 appropriate

EX-HS-.F Equipment & Toys **Met**

Comment
EX-HS-.F - Equipment Observed Secured

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

Comment
EX-HS-.Q - No Swimming Activities Provided

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 **Not Met**

Finding
EX-HS-.X(1) requires the program to post in a prominent place near the front entrance of the facility a copy of both the exemption approval letter issued by the department and a notice to parents or guardians that the program is not required to be licensed. 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 ensure a copy of both the exemption approval letter issued by the Department and a notice to parents or guardians that the program is not required to be licensed is post in a prominent place near the front entrance of the facility.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Finding
EX-HS-.X(2) requires the program to obtain written documentation that the parent or guardian 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 parents did not sign a form indicating that they have been informed and understand that the program is not licensed and is not required to be licensed by the state.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Program will obtain and maintain written documentation that the parent or guardian understands that the Program is not licensed and it not required to be licensed by the state.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

Facility

EX-HS-.B Bathrooms **Met**

Comment
EX-HS-.B - Toilets and sinks 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 review of records that the program did not submit a fire inspection completed within the last 12 months.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The program will obtain appropriate approvals and is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations by the state fire marshal, proper local fire marshal, or state inspector, including a certificate of occupancy.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

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

Comment
EX-HS-.M - Discussed-Fluff/Redistribute Surface

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 not observed - hand washing discussed

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

Comment
EX-HS-.I - Medication not dispensed

Policies and Procedures

EX-HS-.J Operational Policies & Procedures **Not Met**

Finding
EX-HS-.J(2) requires programs to conduct drills for fire, tornado, 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; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, and other emergency situations. The 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. It was determined based on review of documentation that the program did not conduct a fire drill in the month of August 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The program will conduct the drills as required and maintain the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

EX-HS-.T Required Reporting **Met**

Comment
EX-HS-.T - No incidents/injuries requiring reporting

Safety

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

Comment
EX-HS-.E - Observed Age appropriate learning environment

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

Comment
EX-HS-.S - No field trips

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

Comment
EX-HS-.R - No Routine Transportation Provided

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment
EX-HS-.V - No infants enrolled

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 11 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff's Name [# 5]: , Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

EX-HS-.K(1)-Address Missing,EX-HS-.K(1)-DOB Missing,EX-HS-.K(1)-Phone Number Missing

Staff's Name [# 7]: , Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/10/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

EX-HS-.K(1)-Address Missing,EX-HS-.K(1)-DOB Missing,EX-HS-.K(1)-Phone Number Missing

Staff's Name [# 8]: , Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

EX-HS-.K(1)-Phone Number Missing,EX-HS-.K(1)-Address Missing,EX-HS-.K(1)-DOB Missing

Staff's Name [# 11]: , Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2025 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

EX-HS-.K(1)-No Record,EX-HS-.D-Criminal Records Check Missing

EX-HS-.D Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CS) **Not Met**

Finding
EX-HS-.D(1) - requires valid evidence of a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination be maintained at the Program for every actual and potential Director, Employee, and Provisional Employee. It was determined based on review of records that one out of 11 staff members did not have a Satisfactory Criminal Records Check Determination while children were present for care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The program will ensure that every employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter on file and maintained prior to being present at the program while any child is present for care, or before an individual age 17 or older.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025

EX-HS-.G First Aid & CPR(CS) **Met**

Comment
EX-HS-.G(1)(a-b) - Please add or edit the comment under the view findings button.

EX-HS-.K Personnel Records **Technical Assistance**

Comment
EX-HS-.K - Personnel Records maintained

EX-HS-.N Staff Requirements **Met**

Comment
EX-HS-.N - Director available

EX-HS-.P Staff Training **Met**

Comment
EX-HS-.P - Staff training observed

Staffing and Supervision

EX-HS-.O Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision(CS) **Not Met**

Finding
EX-HS-.O(3) requires that children be supervised at all times and that the persons supervising in the child care area be alert, able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the chaperones and students-in-training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. It was determined based on observation that the program did not provide watchful oversight when three children were observed walking in the hallway from one classroom to another unsupervised.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The program will train staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2025