

**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:** 1/21/2026 **VisitType:** EX-CAPS-Monitoring**Arrival:** 2:10PM**Departure:** 4:30PM**EX-42741 EXMT-12566 EX-1 - Government
Cobb County District ASP – Smyrna Elementary
School**1099 Fleming Street, Smyrna GA 30080 Cobb
County**Mailing Address****Exemption Unit Consultant**

Nilia Lalin

Phone: (770) 405-7929

Fax: (404) 591-4949

nilia.lalin@dec.state.ga.gov

Joint with:

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			<u>Prevention Action Category</u>	<u>Intermediate Action Category</u>	<u>Dismissal Action Category</u>
1/21/2026	EX-CAPS-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 (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
1170		0	0	Y	
1203		0	0	Y	
1211		0	0	Y	
Cafeteria	, Six and older	4	37	Y	
Gym	, Six and older	3	51	Y	
Playground 1	, Fives	2	22	Y	

Group Sizes Met? Y

Total # Non-Care Staff Present: 0

#Staff Count: 9

#Children Count: 110

Comments:

The program was operating as approved by the exemption.

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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Joint with:

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 - Observed children's files as required.

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

EX-HS-.X - Program operating as approved.

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)**Met****Comment**

EX-HS-.L - Program appears clean and well maintained.

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

EX-HS-.M - Playground appears clean and well maintained.

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 - Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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 that describe the Program's operations on this date.

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 - No transportation provided.

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

Records Reviewed: 7	Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2
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Staff # 4	Not Met
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"Missing/Incomplete Components"

EX-HS-.D-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 7	Not Met
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"Missing/Incomplete Components"

EX-HS-.D-Criminal Records Check Missing

Finding

EX-HS-.D(1) requires valid evidence of a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination be maintained at the Program for each employee and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee. It was determined based on review of the records that two out of 14 staff members did not have a DECAL 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 secured prior to being present at the program while any child is present for care, or before an individual age 17 or older.

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2026

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

EX-HS-.G - Observed evidence of staff training in CPR and first aid on this date.

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

EX-HS-.K(1)(a-c) - Please maintain a complete personnel file on all staff members, including identifying information.

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**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

EX-HS-.P(1) - Please make sure that all staff members sign orientation form.

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.