

Monitoring report for a Children's Home

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Inspector	Joanna Heller

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Service information

Brief description of the service

This children's home is a private provision which provides care and accommodation for up to three young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties aged between 11 and 17 years.

Outcome of monitoring visit

A full inspection of the home was carried out on the 1 and 2 October 2014 by a social care regulatory inspector. The home at this inspection was graded inadequate.

The inspection identified that a child was admitted to the home without suitably detailed assessment of need. This meant staff were not fully aware of their needs and had the potential to place the child at risk. Furthermore, on one occasion suitable transport arrangements were not established to ensure the safe return of a child following a contact visit.

One compliance notice was issued in respect of the failure to promote the welfare of children accommodated in the home (Regulation 11(1)(a)).

On 20 October 2014 a visit was undertaken by the social care regulatory inspector in order to monitor the compliance notice. The visit found that improvements have been made in the referral and admission processes. The registered person now ensures that suitable information will be obtained prior to the placement of a child and the responsible individual and the Registered Manager are aware of their respective roles in ensuring this takes place. The manager has met with staff to remind them of the importance of evidencing suitable arrangements are in place to safeguard young people in an emergency situation.

The improvements to admissions processes and greater awareness of staff in managing emergency situations means that staff are more able to meet the child's needs. The home now makes proper provision for the welfare of children accommodated there and the compliance notice has been met.

About this monitoring visit

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and progress made by the Children's Home following an Ofsted inspection.