

Children's Home – Monitoring visit

Inspection date	21/02/2017
Unique reference number	1183911
Type of inspection	Monitoring
Inspector	Jamie Richardson

Monitoring inspection

This inspection was undertaken to monitor a compliance notice set on 3 January 2017. This notice is met and requirements and recommendations relating to restraint practice are also met.

The responsible individual has undertaken a robust review of physical intervention policy and practice. As a result, physical intervention practice is now child-focused, and the culture for managing challenging behaviour is developing positively. One member of staff commented: 'Practice is better for young people and safer for all of us.'

Children and young people are benefiting from revised behaviour support plans and risk assessments that now take into account their individual health needs. A range of medical professionals now provide assessments to ensure that recommended intervention techniques are appropriate and take into consideration children's and young people's physical and emotional needs.

Staff are better supported to use lower level holds, which pose less risk to children and young people. Higher-level holds now have additional safeguards in place to monitor children's and young people's well-being. Additional training behaviour management is in place and the use of physical intervention, particularly floor holds, is reducing.

Managers monitor children's and young people's well-being effectively throughout any physical restraint. Consequently, any medical assistance required for children and young people is now identified and sought.

The administration of non-prescription medication has significantly improved. New individual medication protocols help staff to understand those situations where management authorisation is required. This ensures that practice is safe and medication is administered correctly.

The introduction of a new management development team is lending strength to monitoring arrangements. Managers, staff and clinicians, including a psychologist, psychiatrist and paediatrician, are scrutinising behaviour management practice. This allows for patterns and trends in behaviour to be identified and quickly addressed.

Information about this children's home

This home is run by a private provider. It provides care for children and young people who have autistic spectrum disorder, severe and complex learning difficulties and who exhibit challenging behaviour. This home can accommodate up to 12 children and young people.

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

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