

SC039213

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run children's home is registered to care for up to six young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Inspection date: 5 June 2018

This monitoring visit

This children's home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 24 April 2018. As a result, two compliance notices relating to Regulations 6 and 12 were issued. Ofsted considers that the home has met the compliance notices.

Following this monitoring visit, no change is made to the full inspection judgement. This is primarily due to the fact that, despite meeting the compliance notices and making some progress in addressing the requirements, there were additional shortfalls identified at the home during the visit.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
23/04/2018	Full	Inadequate
15/01/2018	Interim	Improved effectiveness
06/06/2017	Full	Requires improvement to be good
15/02/2017	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'. The registered person(s) must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
<p>The quality and purpose of care standard</p> <p>In order to meet the quality and purpose of care standard, the registered provider must ensure;</p> <p>that staff—</p> <p>provide to children living in the home the physical necessities they need in order to live there comfortably. (Regulation 6 (2)(b)(vii))</p> <p>In particular, this relates to securing all wardrobes to bedroom walls to ensure that they do not present a hazard to young people.</p>	30/07/2018
<p>Review of quality of care</p> <p>In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system of monitoring, reviewing and evaluating—</p> <p>the quality of care provided for children;</p> <p>the feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and</p> <p>any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided to children. (Regulation 45(2)(a)(b)(c)(d))</p>	30/07/2018
<p>The positive relationships standard</p> <p>The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on—</p> <p>mutual respect and trust;</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that staff—</p> <p>encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and</p>	30/07/2018

<p>understanding; (Regulation 11(1)(a)(2)(a)(iii))</p> <p>This is with reference to behaviour support plans containing the input of feedback of young people.</p>	
<p>Children's case records</p> <p>The registered person must maintain records ('case records') for each child which—</p> <p>are kept up to date. (Regulation 36(1)(b))</p>	30/07/2018
<p>The leadership and management standard</p> <p>The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that—</p> <p>helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and</p> <p>promotes their welfare.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—</p> <p>lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose;</p> <p>ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child;</p> <p>ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child; (Regulation 13(2)(c))</p> <p>This is with reference to the absence of restraint training for the staff team.</p>	30/07/2018

Recommendations

- When a child returns to the home after being missing from care or away from home without permission, the responsible local authority must provide an opportunity for the child to have an independent return home interview. Homes should take account of information provided by such interviews when assessing risks and putting arrangements in place to protect each child. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 45, paragraph 9.30)
- Records must be kept detailing all individual incidents when children go missing from the home (regulation 36 (schedule 3(14))). This information should be shared with the placing authority and, where appropriate, with the child's parents. Evaluation of missing incidents should be undertaken to identify any gaps in training, skills or knowledge for staff or to record and retain evidence of what worked well. This evaluation should inform the review of the quality of care. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations

including the quality standards', pages 45 and 46, paragraph 9.31)

- Ensure any individual appointed to carry out visits to the home as an independent person makes a rigorous and impartial assessment of the home's arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children in the home's care. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 64, paragraph 15.5)

Ten requirements and two recommendations resulted from the last full inspection. The home has addressed six of these requirements, while an additional requirement and a recommendation result from this inspection. The remaining requirements and recommendations remain repeated following this visit.

There are currently no young people living in the home. No admissions to the home have taken place since the last inspection. The last young person left the home on 29 May 2018. Of the six young people resident in the home at the last inspection, two returned home to their parents, two moved on to alternative children's home provision, and two moved on to semi-independent provision. The staff team supported these moves by providing closure summaries to inform and guide staff at their new placements. The placing authorities involved confirm this.

Four full-time staff members remain in position. This includes the registered manager, senior support worker, a support worker and a newly recruited quality assurance manager. The quality assurance manager is a qualified social worker and former support worker in the home. He joined the staff team in May 2018. He describes the last inspection as a 'huge wakeup call' and stated that he is committed to addressing the concerns. All other staff members are currently seeking employment elsewhere. The registered manager reports that some staff members have indicated a wish to return to the home on an 'ad hoc' basis.

Response to compliance notices

Risk assessment practice is improved. The home has introduced a new format for risk assessment. Procedures ensure regular review and incorporate the wishes and feelings of young people. Procedures include a commitment to contacting any previous placement and pursuing placing authorities for all relevant information. The absence of young people limits any assessment of the effectiveness of these new procedures.

The absence of young people restricts a full assessment of the home's progress in relation to ongoing risk assessment, both prior to and post arrival. Managers are aware that the next inspection will assess ongoing work to develop risk assessment practice and to ensure that processes are in place to ensure that previous shortfalls are not repeated.

The registered manager has updated the assessment of risk regarding the local community. This includes in-depth information regarding gang activity and current tensions. The registered manager has contacted the local youth offending service, which has agreed to update the home on a regular basis of any concerns or risks. This information will inform risk assessments prior to, and after, the admission of

young people.

Staff supervisory arrangements are improved. A new structure and report format is in place. The quality assurance manager will monitor the quality and regularity of supervision.

Following the last inspection, Ofsted received formal notification of all significant events in the home. This has assisted preparation for this visit and oversight of practice in the home.

The home has changed its independent visitor. The new independent visitor has completed one visit in May 2018. However, the consequent report fails to evaluate the quality of safeguarding in the home or evidence any consultation with young people or other key professionals outside of the home.

The home environment is improved. Staff now benefit from completing a daily building check record, which ensures that the living area remains clean and that young people are supported to keep their rooms tidy. Staff at the home have purchased new furniture for bedrooms. However, three wardrobes present a risk to young people as they had not been securely fitted. All of the bedrooms were clean and tidy.

The management monitoring report is not complete. The registered manager states that it is due for completion by 20 June 2018.

The registered manager has identified a training provider to supply restraint training for the staff team. A date for training is still to be finalised and will be contingent on plans for future staff recruitment.

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.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC039213

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Responsible individual: Mr Stellakis Miltiadous

Registered manager: Abubakaar Sesay

Inspector

Barnaby Dowell, social care inspector

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