

# SC039213

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## **Information about this children's home**

This home provides care for up to six young people. The provider's statement of purpose states that the home provides care for young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

**Inspection date:** 2 October 2018

## **This monitoring visit**

The home has addressed the one requirement resulting from the last inspection. Staff have undertaken a restraint course. It was not possible to assess compliance with the three recommendations during this visit. Therefore, these recommendations are repeated.

Managers acknowledged that they have 'learned a lot' since the last inspection. They displayed a strong commitment in seeking services for young people, notably mentoring services. Despite this, managers accepted that one recent admission occurred without a programme of education in place for the young person concerned.

The inspector found no concerns with regards to the cleanliness of the kitchen. Staff reported that the home is cleaned on a daily basis, sometimes with the support of young people.

There is no change to the management of the home. The registered manager remains in place, supported by a quality assurance manager. Managers continue to lead improvements in case recording and risk assessment.

There is no written record of any verbal abuse being reported by young people. Case files did not indicate any complaint or allegation, and managers confirmed that they are unaware of any concerns.

The numbers of incidents when young people go missing from the home are high. Managers have acted quickly to convene multi-agency meetings with key professionals such as local police and social workers to assess the risk posed to young people. Staff are proactive in seeking to locate young people and support them at a vulnerable time.

Behavioural management has improved. Case records indicate an improvement in school attendance following the introduction of behaviour contracts.

The complainant refers to an adult male staff member grooming a young person. The inspector identified that the complaint actually refers to a friend of a young person who lives outside of the home; the home has taken appropriate action to assess the situation. Managers acknowledge concerns over several items found in one young person's bedroom. Risk assessments reflect these concerns, and a forthcoming strategy meeting will consider protective action.

Following this monitoring visit, Ofsted made no change to the judgement of 'requires improvement to be good' that was made at the last full inspection.

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
17/07/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
23/04/2018	Full	Inadequate
15/01/2018	Interim	Improved effectiveness
06/06/2017	Full	Requires improvement to be good

## 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 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>understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b)(2)(f))</p> <p>This is with regards to improving the quality of written assessments that leaders and managers complete prior to the admission of young people, to ensure that they are able to make progress on arriving in the home.</p>	15/12/2018

### 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)
- The registered person should oversee the welfare of the children in their care through observation and engagement with each child. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 54, paragraph 10.23)

## **Information about this inspection**

The purpose of this visit was to assess the home after Ofsted received a complaint. The complainant raised concerns regarding the quality of care provided by staff and the cleanliness of the kitchen. The complaint related specifically to inappropriate staff behaviour, verbal abuse from a staff member to a young person, young people going missing from the home and management of the home.

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:** Stellakis Miltiadous

**Registered manager:** Abubakaar Sesay

## **Inspector**

Barnaby Dowell, social care inspector

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