

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: 31 October 2018

This monitoring visit

The purpose of this visit was to assess the home after Ofsted received a complaint. This visit followed on from a recent monitoring visit which occurred on 2 October 2018.

Following this monitoring visit, Ofsted made no change to the overall 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 regard to the assessment that is undertaken 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', page 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

One requirement and three recommendations were made at the last monitoring visit. Given the short period of time since the last visit, it has not been possible to fully assess the home's response. Therefore, the one requirement and three recommendations are repeated.

The home's admissions process is more rigorous. Two young people have been admitted since the last visit. Case records show that comprehensive risk assessments were undertaken in both instances.

Managers prioritise the provision of school placements or tuition for young people.

The behaviour of young people in the home has improved. Managers have introduced behaviour contracts with young people which clearly outline expectations. Where young people continue to struggle or fail to respond to such input, appropriate action is taken to end placements to ensure the stability of the home.

Young people have improved their levels of school attendance. Attendance for each young person has increased in the last month. Despite travelling long distances to school, young people are focused and respond well to consistent staff support.

The level of missing behaviour has reduced. The number of times that young people were reported as missing reduced from 39 in September to 11 in October. This is linked to the improved daily structures and routines and the benefit of increased school attendance.

The monitoring of 'missing' behaviour has improved. Managers are introducing a new system to track the provision of independent return to care interviews.

Staff morale is good Staff are excited by the progress of young people and their improved behaviours. They are focused on continuing to learn and supporting the needs of young people.

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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