

1183936

Acorn Homes (uk) Ltd

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately operated home provides care and accommodation for up to six children. The home's statement of purpose states that the home offers placements for children who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. Placements are generally medium to long term.

The registered manager has been registered since March 2018.

Inspection date: 21 June 2019

This monitoring visit

This children's home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 13 May 2019. Following this inspection, a restriction of accommodation notice was served on the home on 21 May 2019. This monitoring visit was to establish if the restriction of accommodation notice had been complied with.

The register of admissions and discharges was checked as part of the inspection and no new admissions had taken place since the issuing of the notice.

The registered manager was not present during the inspection as she was suspended pending an investigation into a matter unrelated to this monitoring visit.

The responsible individual was present in the home and is providing management oversight until this matter is resolved.

Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 13/05/2019 | Full | Inadequate |
| 01/05/2018 | Full | Good |
| 24/05/2017 | Full | Good |
| 06/03/2017 | Interim | Improved 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 registered person must maintain records ("case records") for each child which—</p> <p>include the information and documents listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child;</p> <p>are kept up to date; and</p> <p>are signed and dated by the author of each entry. (Regulation 36(1)(a)(b)(c))</p> | 01/07/2019 |
| <p>Schedule 4 sets out the other information that the registered person must keep in relation to a children's home.</p> <p>The registered person must—</p> <p>maintain in the home the records in Schedule 4; and</p> <p>ensure that the records are kept up to date. (Regulation 37(1)(2)(a)(b))</p> <p>In particular, the registered person must keep the register of children up to date.</p> | 01/07/2019 |
| <p>14: The care planning standard</p> <p>The care planning standard is that children—</p> <p>receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home;</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that children are admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home's statement of purpose. (Regulation 14(1)(a)(2)(a))</p> <p>In particular, leaders and managers must ensure that staff have the knowledge and skills to provide care and support to children in the home that is in line with the home's Statement of Purpose.</p> | 01/07/2019 |

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| <p>13: 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>ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to each child. (Regulation 13(1)(2)(e))</p> <p>In particular, when staff are unable to attend team meetings, a record is kept that staff have read the team meeting notes.</p> | <p>01/07/2019</p> |
| <p>16: Statement of purpose</p> <p>The registered person must compile in relation to the children's home a statement ("the statement of purpose") which covers the matters listed in Schedule 1.</p> <p>The registered person must—</p> <p>keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and</p> <p>notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16(1)(3)(a)(b))</p> | <p>01/07/2019</p> |
| <p>Restraint in relation to a child is only permitted for the purpose of preventing—</p> <p>injury to any person (including the child);</p> <p>serious damage to the property of any person (including the child).</p> <p>Restraint in relation to a child must be necessary and proportionate. (Regulation 20(1)(a)(b)(2))</p> <p>In particular, staff must not deprive children of their liberty unless authorised by a court order, and the number of staff used to restrain children must be proportionate to any risk of harm.</p> | <p>01/07/2019</p> |
| <p>12: The protection of children standard</p> <p>The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>manage relationships between children to prevent them from</p> | <p>01/07/2019</p> |

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| <p>harming each other.</p> <p>that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm. (Regulation 12(1)(2)(a)(iv)(b))</p> <p>In particular, staff must provide young people with levels of supervision as identified in their care plans, and the registered person must ensure that effective strategies are in place and followed by staff to manage any risks to children in the home.</p> | |
| <p>6: The quality and purpose of care standard</p> <p>The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who—</p> <p>understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—</p> <p>understand and apply the home's statement of purpose;</p> <p>ensure that staff—</p> <p>treat each child with dignity and respect. (Regulation 6(1)(2)(a)(b)(iii))</p> | 01/07/2019 |
| <p>The registered manager must undertake such continuing professional development as is necessary to ensure that the registered manager has the skills needed for managing the home. (Regulation 29(4))</p> | 01/07/2019 |
| <p>The registered person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children ("a quality of care review") at least once every 6 months.</p> <p>In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for 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 for children.</p> <p>After completing a quality of care review, the registered person must produce a written report about the quality of care review and the actions which the registered person intends to take as a result of the quality of care review ("the</p> | 01/07/2019 |

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| <p>quality of care review report”).</p> <p>The registered person must—</p> <p>supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality of care review is completed; and</p> <p>make a copy of the quality of care review report available on request to a placing authority, if the placing authority is not the parent of a child accommodated in the home.</p> <p>The system referred to in paragraph (2) must provide for ascertaining and considering the opinions of children, their parents, placing authorities and staff. (Regulation 45(1)(2)(a)(b)(c)(3)(4)(a)(b)(5))</p> | |
| <p>The registered person must ensure that all employees—</p> <p>receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33(4)(b))</p> <p>In particular, staff must receive regular supervision.</p> | 01/07/2019 |

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: 1183936

Provision sub-type: Children’s home

Registered provider: Acorn Homes (uk) Ltd

Registered provider address: 424 Margate Road, Ramsgate CT12 6SJ

Responsible individual: Carol Bradley

Registered manager: Coleen Ashman

Inspector

Patrick Sullivan, social care inspector

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