

SC439535

Registered provider: Pebbles Care

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is approved to provide care and accommodation for a maximum of five children and/or young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. It is currently providing care and accommodation for four children and young people. The manager has been registered since August 2013.

Inspection date: 4 September 2019

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Date of last inspection: 23 October 2018

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

This inspection

The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection

This home was judged requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection. At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness.

All the requirements from the last inspection have been met. The risk assessments are up to date and are relevant to the needs of the children. The staff have read the safeguarding policies and have received safeguarding training. The manager has an oversight of the recruitment, and any gaps in relation to references and Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been explored and considered. All significant incidents since the last inspection have been notified to Ofsted.

All the children and young people in the home are making progress. They have access to education, interests and pets and live in a nice, large home with a calm atmosphere. The children and young people benefit from a warm and nurturing approach from staff.

Children and young people that have left the home had good support during the

transitions. They have gained independence skills and been involved in planning their move from the home. When there have been sudden endings, the children and young people have still been able to maintain contact with staff and receive emotional support after their move.

Children and young people that move into the home get a warm welcome and support when moving in. They visit the home prior to moving in and have planned overnight stays. Children and young people can bring their personal items to the home and go shopping for things such as posters, lights, and soft furnishings of their choice to personalise their bedrooms. The bedrooms are decorated and furnished according to the wishes of the children and young people before they move into the home.

The manager has considered the needs of the children and young people moving into the home, but the impact risk assessments do not state how this may affect group living arrangements. In addition, the manager has not explored all the background information such as medical issues to gain a full understanding of the needs of the young person moving in.

The manager is monitoring the service by maintaining records of the work that has taken place with young children and young people such as key-working sessions, meetings, health appointments, incidents, and education. The manager is utilising the independent visitor's monitoring and recommendations and has submitted the bi-annual monitoring report to Ofsted in a timely manner. However, the report lacks analysis and evaluation in parts of the quality of the care provided for the children and young people. This means that the impact and effectiveness of improvements and developments is not always clear.

The staff are responding appropriately to any incidents that take place in the home to keep children and young people safe. The staff use restraints only as a last resort. When the children and young people are distressed, distraction techniques such as going for a walk or drive in the car, having a calm discussion, or spending time with animals is often enough to defuse the situation.

The children and young people have many opportunities to discuss any issues with the staff, both in planned key-working sessions and informal chats. It is evident from the observations that the staff, children, and young people have good trusting relationships with each other. The children and young people say that they are happy, rules are fair, and they have people to talk to whenever they need to.

Staff have received additional training on issues such as autistic spectrum disorder to further help the children and young people in the home according to their needs.

The staff and manager are in regular liaison with social workers and schools. Social workers get weekly updates of the progress that the children and young people are making in the home. The feedback from the professionals is positive and highlights how well staff are managing complex behaviours of the children and young people in the home. The staff communicate regularly with the families of the children and young people and support them to maintain regular contact.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
23/10/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
10/07/2018	Full	Inadequate
05/03/2018	Full	Good
09/03/2017	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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

Statutory requirements

Requirement	Due Date
<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>that staff—</p> <p>assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child’s relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; (Regulation 12(1)(2)(a)(i))</p> <p>Specifically, the registered person needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ensure that there are robust impact risk assessments in place prior to the children and young people moving into the home. These must clearly consider the risks that the behaviour of the child or young person moving into the home might have on those already living in the home and vice versa. 	30/11/2019
<p>The health and well-being standard is that —</p> <p>The health and well-being needs of the children are met;</p> <p>Children receive advice, services and support in relation to their health and well-being; (Regulation 10(1)(a)(b))</p> <p>Specifically, the registered person needs to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Any information provided in the referrals in respect of the health conditions of the children and young people that might be significant to their future health are explored with appropriate professionals to gain a full understanding of their needs. 	30/11/2019

Recommendations

- The review of the quality of care standard is that it should enable the registered person to identify areas of strengths and possible weaknesses in the home's care, which will be captured in the written report. The report should clearly identify any actions required within the home and how those actions will be addressed. The whole review process should be used as a tool for continuous improvement in the home. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.4)

This is specifically in relation to evaluating the quality of care that children and young people have received in the home.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the differences made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and young people and their families. In addition, the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people whom it is trying to help, protect and look after.

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

Using the 'Social care common inspection framework', this inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC439535

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Pebbles Care

Registered provider address: 2 Wyther Lane, Leeds, Yorkshire LS5 3BT

Responsible individual: David Hitchen

Registered manager: Kimberley Crabtree

Inspectors

Krista Hardy, social care inspector

Parveen Hussain, regulatory inspection manager

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence>, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231

Textphone: 0161 618 8524

E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

W: <http://www.gov.uk/ofsted>

© Crown copyright 2019