

1226397

Registered provider: Compass Children's Homes Ltd

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and operated by a private company. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to four children and young people aged six to 17. The children and young people may have faced adverse childhood experiences, trauma or placement and family breakdown.

The new registered manager has been in post since September 2019.

Inspection date: 26 February 2020

Date of last inspection: 22 May 2019

Judgement at last inspection: good

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 good at the last full inspection.

At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.

The new registered manager has taken effective action to meet previous requirements. This has improved children's care by making sure that they now experience continuity and consistency of care from a settled, fully staffed and well-trained team.

Monitoring and review systems now lead to improvement. Managerial scrutiny ensures that lessons are learned when there have been concerns. Professionals recognise the progress that their children are making and see improvements under the new registered manager. She was previously manager here until February 2018 and knows the service well.

Ofsted was aware during this inspection that a serious incident that had occurred at the setting since the previous inspection is under investigation by the provider under the direction of the local area designated officer. While Ofsted does not have the power to investigate incidents of this kind, the actions taken by the setting in response to the incident were considered alongside other evidence available at the time of the inspection to inform the inspector's judgements.

The provider has worked cooperatively with the appropriate authorities since learning of this incident. The registered manager now knows that some staff have not implemented the provider's policy on positive behaviour management, which has resulted in the use of unnecessary restrictive practice. She has taken actions to address these shortfalls in practice.

The arrangements to plan, deliver and review children's care are well integrated with the placing authority. The registered manager promotes positive behavioural management, informed by the provider's theoretical approach. Staff are mindful of children's histories and needs and help children when they are in distress. The provider works with placing authorities to source and support the therapeutic services that children need.

Risk-management arrangements are clear and include children, where possible. Staff implement a swift, child-focused approach if children go missing. Staff work hard to help children to reduce their drug-taking and steer clear of criminal activity. Police appreciate the home's proactive approach, good communication and insightful information.

Children have good holidays abroad. They enjoy healthy childhood activities and join local children's clubs and associations. This helps them to develop their self-esteem.

Children told the inspector that they love their bedrooms and the activities that they are able to engage in. They said that they always get help with learning and when they are worried or upset. One young person described how staff had helped them to regulate their behaviour and to become safer: 'They try as hard as they can.' Children said that they feel safe at home and in the community.

Staff help children prepare for the next stage in their lives, whether to independence or to foster care. They support children to move on positively. They also help new children to settle in and try to reduce any emerging issues between children.

The manager advocates on children's behalf and challenges other agencies when needed. This results in improved relationships and better health, education and placing authority support for children.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
22/05/2019	Full	Good
12/09/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
13/03/2018	Interim	Improved effectiveness
10/05/2017	Full	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 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>an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and</p> <p>positive responses to other children and adults.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure–</p> <p>that staff–</p> <p>meet each child's behavioural and emotional needs, as set out in the child's relevant plans;</p> <p>strive to gain each child's respect and trust;</p> <p>understand how children's previous experiences and present emotions can be communicated through behaviour and have the competence and skills to interpret these and develop positive relationships with children; and</p> <p>are provided with supervision and support to enable them to understand and manage their own feelings and responses to the behaviour and emotions of children, and to help children to do the same.</p> <p>(Regulation 11(1)(a)(b)(c), (2)(a)(i)(viii)(x))</p>	30/04/2020
<p>Restraint in relation to a child is only permitted for the purpose of preventing–</p> <p>injury to any person (including the child); and</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.</p> <p>(Regulation 20(1)(a)(b), (2))</p>	30/04/2020

Information about this inspection

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.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, 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: 1226397

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Compass Children's Homes Ltd

Registered provider address: Mountfields House, Epinal Way, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3GE

Responsible individual: Benjamin Jordan

Registered manager: Paula Niven

Inspector

Christy Wannop, social care inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
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M1 2WD

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