

1234990

The Percy Hedley Foundation

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is operated by a private provider. It cares for up to 14 children and young people who may have physical disabilities, learning disabilities and/or sensory impairment. The accommodation consists of a residential unit and a three-bedroomed cottage.

There has been no registered manager in post for more than one year.

Inspection date: 24 March 2020

This monitoring visit

An unannounced monitoring inspection was conducted at this home centre on 24 March 2020 following concerns that had been raised with Ofsted in connection with the safeguarding and protection of children.

During the visit, the inspector found that there had been eight medication errors between September 2019 and February 2020. A further medication error was reported following the visit.

Staff do not take effective action to safeguard children and young people. For example, some staff have forgotten to administer the correct medication, or have given children and young people the wrong dose. These factors considerably undermine children and young people's safety and well-being.

The home has not had a registered manager for over a year. As a result, there has been no consistent day-to-day leadership to ensure that all children and young people are safeguarded and looked after to a high standard.

The lack of a registered manager means that recurring problems, including administration of medication, are not managed strategically. Although individual errors are investigated, there have been no organisational changes to ensure improvement in practice. Therefore, children and young people remain at risk.

The proposed interim management arrangements for the home do not offer the safeguards that children and young people require. For example, the disclosure of a further medication error following this visit confirms ongoing issues. This means that children and young people are at risk because of the potential for further mistakes to be made.

Senior leaders understand these concerns. They are committed to making the necessary improvements. The regulator will monitor compliance with the requirement made.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/09/2019	Full	Requires improvement to be good
12/06/2019	Full	Inadequate
01/08/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
22/05/2018	Interim	Declined in 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, the 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 provider must appoint a person to manage the children's home if—</p> <p>there is no registered manager in respect of the home.</p> <p>If the registered provider appoints a person to manage the home, the registered provider must, without delay, give HMCI notice of—</p> <p>the name of the person so appointed; and</p> <p>the date on which the appointment takes effect.</p> <p>(Regulation 27 (1)(a)(2)(a)(b))</p>	30/03/2020

*This requirement is subject to a compliance notice.

Information about this inspection

Ofsted is aware of the challenges that Covid-19 is currently posing to those we inspect/regulate. During this visit, the inspectors took into consideration the impact of any measures being taken to slow the spread of Coronavirus by the home. This has included the effect these have had on staffing arrangements.

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: 1234990

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: The Percy Hedley Foundation

Registered provider address: Percy Hedley School, Forest Hall, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE12 8YY

Responsible individual: Joanna Allen

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Jane Titley: social care inspector

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