

1236771

Hexagon Care Services Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home cares for up to three children aged between 11 and 17 years. The home's purpose is to provide care and accommodation for children with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted on 20 December 2018.

Inspection dates: 1 to 2 December 2020

This monitoring visit

The purpose of this announced visit was to explore the action taken by the provider following concerns raised in a safeguarding notification dated 9 November 2020. In particular, the inspector considered the concerns around the criminal exploitation of the three young people living in the home. Also, the placement of young people living in the home, risk assessments and the plans to support young people.

Impact risk assessments do not demonstrate the reasons for accepting a new young person into the home. The risk assessments lack a critical analysis of the known risks and concerns and the potential impact on other young people living in the home. Therefore, it is unclear as to why some young people were placed in the home.

Young people's individual risk assessments are weighty documents; some are 47 pages long. This is because they contain historical information that is no longer relevant and a significant amount of repetitive information. As a result, current risks, such as child criminal exploitation, are not given sufficient emphasis. Additionally, risk assessments are not recorded in a way that will be helpful to young people should they access their records now or in the future. This particularly relates to the action staff are taking to help to keep young people safe. However, It is clear from the discussions with the registered manager, deputy and professionals that the staff

are very aware of the current risks to the young people and are responding appropriately to minimise these.

Furthermore, professionals attending the strategy meetings are complimentary about the action that the staff are taking to reduce the risks of harm to young people. This includes contacting the local taxi firms and asking them not to collect young people from the home. Staff also carry out room searches to gather any intelligence about the whereabouts of young people. Staff also keep in touch with young people when they are away from the home, and where possible carry out visual checks if they cannot get in touch with them. This is helping to reduce the risk of harm to young people.

Immediate action has been taken by the registered manager to address the shortfalls identified.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/09/2019	Full	Good
27/11/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
10/01/2018	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
04/10/2017	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 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>In particular, young people's risk assessments should reflect the current risks to young people and the action being taken to reduce those risks.</p>	15 January 2021
<p>The care planning standard is that children—</p> <p>receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; and</p> <p>have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the 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)(b) (2)(a))</p> <p>In particular, ensure that young people's impact risk assessments are sufficiently detailed.</p>	15 December 2020

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff are familiar with the home's policies on record-keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective and clear recording. Information about a child must always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child. The home's records on each child provide a significant contribution to their life history. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 62, paragraphs 14.4, 14.5)

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: 1236771

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Hexagon Care Services Limited

Registered provider address: Unit 1 Tustin Court, Riversway, Preston PR2 2YQ

Responsible individual: Louise Whitby

Registered manager: Robert Allen

Inspector

Chris Scully, Social Care Inspector

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

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://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

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: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2020