

1252023

T-Junction Children's Services Ltd

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three children who have social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. The home is owned and operated by a private provider.

The registered manager has very recently resigned her post. Three children were living at the home at the time of the monitoring visit.

Inspection date: 9 February 2021

This monitoring visit

Ofsted is aware of the challenges that COVID-19 (coronavirus) is currently posing to those we regulate. During this monitoring visit, the inspector took into consideration the impact of any measures being taken to slow the spread of COVID-19 by the home. Monitoring of this home was carried out remotely.

This monitoring visit was carried out due to concerns identified from notifications sent from the provider to Ofsted. The notifications identified potentially significant issues relating to the protection of children.

A serious incident has taken place in the home. During the incident, two staff members displayed poor, potentially harmful practice. However, other staff on duty and on-call managers reacted immediately to reduce risk to children. Staff who had behaved inappropriately were removed from duty immediately. All relevant safeguarding agencies were promptly informed. This enabled an effective, independent investigation. Although this was an isolated incident, managers have taken steps to learn lessons and prevent recurrence. A requirement is set to ensure that this learning continues.

The quick and effective actions taken by staff in response to the incident demonstrate that the home's safeguarding training is effective. However, the incident

has highlighted some weakness in relation to the way that staff can access advice and guidance in an emergency. Although staff were able to access good advice during the incident, lines of accountability and on-call management arrangements were not clearly set out for staff to follow.

Children are not always given the opportunity to speak with an independent advocate. They did not have this opportunity after the incident. This means that children cannot always share concerns about their safety with an independent adult.

Procedures for the administration and recording of medication have improved. Leaders and managers took robust action after failings were identified. Senior staff are now responsible for the administration and recording of medication. They undertake regular audits. Staff have received further training. This reduces the capacity for medication mistakes.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
23/10/2019	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
09/04/2019	Full	Good
16/07/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
18/10/2017	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 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)(b))</p> <p>This specifically relates to ensuring that managers and staff take learning from a significant incident that placed children at risk.</p>	10 March 2021
<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>lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the need to ensure that management cover arrangements are clear and sufficient to respond to safeguarding children.</p>	10 March 2021

Recommendations

- The registered person should encourage children to understand that they can speak to an independent advocate, Ofsted inspectors or other relevant persons if they have concerns about their safety. ('Guide to children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 43, paragraph 9.11)

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: 1252023

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: T-Junction Children's Services Ltd

Registered provider address: 27 The Pastures, Narborough, Leicester LE19 3DS

Responsible individual: Timothy Clare

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Simon Hunter, Social Care Inspector

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