

1240884

Care 4 Children Holdco Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned children's home. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to two children who may have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Two children currently live at the home and were spoken to as part of the visit.

There is a registered manager in post.

Inspection date: 2 March 2021

This monitoring visit

This visit was arranged due to information in recent notifications that raised concerns about safeguarding.

At the visit, the registered manager told the inspectors that a serious incident occurred in the home on the evening prior to the visit. This was in relation to a child who was involved in self-injurious behaviour and staff had concerns in relation to his mental health. During the visit, the registered manager and staff were implementing strategies to keep the child safe.

Staff demonstrate a good understanding of this child's needs and they are committed to keeping him safe. The manager adapted the staff roster to ensure that a member of staff is supporting the child throughout the night. Staff spoken to at the visit agreed to the new roster, which would provide a safer environment.

The inspectors observed warm and nurturing relationships between children and staff. One child told inspectors that he gets on well with staff and that he can talk to them about how he is feeling.

The other child was also positive about the home and staff. He described good relationships with staff. He said that he could not think of anything that would

improve the home. He said that his home is 'seven or eight out of 10, with 10 being the best'.

The manager and staff listen to what children have to say. For example, the manager identified that one child's behaviour was negatively affected by infrequent contact with his family. Therefore, arrangements were made for a member of staff to take the child to visit his family. This was on a day when the member of staff was not working at the home. This demonstrates that staff are committed to supporting the child.

The inspectors identified shortfalls in risk assessments. This is because risk assessments are not up to date and do not include clear strategies for staff to follow to manage children's individual risks, such as internet use and self-harm. The registered manager recognises that this is an area that he needs to improve.

The manager and staff attempt to engage children in education. However, the current strategies are ineffective because children do not consistently attend school or complete virtual learning arranged by their school.

Monitoring and review systems require improvement. This is to ensure that the manager is continually reviewing and evaluating children's care, particularly in relation to the review and evaluation of children's individual risk assessments. The risk assessments do not include management oversight. This is necessary to ensure that the manager is continually assessing children's care to understand the impact the quality of care is having on children's progress and experiences.

Although the registered manager has informed Ofsted of serious incidents in the home, there has been a delay in reporting incidents. This means that Ofsted cannot effectively monitor the situation in the home to ensure that children are safe.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
31/07/2019	Full	Good
02/05/2018	Full	Good
08/01/2018	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
02/05/2017	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, 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 education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that staff—</p> <p>help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans;</p> <p>support each child's learning and development, including helping the child to develop independent study skills and, where appropriate, helping the child to complete independent study;</p> <p>help each child to understand the importance and value of education, learning, training and employment;</p> <p>help each child to attend education or training in accordance with the expectations in the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iv)(x))</p> <p>This is particularly in relation to ensuring that children engage in structured education either informally or formally.</p>	12 May 2021
<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</p>	12 May 2021

<p>necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child;</p> <p>understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person;</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)(a)(i)(v)(b))</p> <p>This is particularly in relation to staff ensuring that children's risk assessments are updated to include all known risks, including strategies to help staff reduce any risk of harm to children.</p>	
<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;</p> <p>understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home;</p> <p>use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1) (2)(f)(h))</p> <p>This is particularly in relation to the oversight and evaluation of children's plans and any incidents within the home. Plans should be reviewed to identify any triggers or patterns to children's behaviour and develop strategies to manage them.</p>	12 May 2021
<p>The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if—</p>	12 May 2021

a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation;

an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious;

there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there;

a child protection enquiry involving a child—

is instigated; or

concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or

there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious.
(Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))

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: 1240884

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Care 4 Children Holdco Limited

Registered provider address: 1 Stuart Road, Bredbury Park Industrial Estate, Bredbury, Stockport SK6 2SR

Responsible individual: Danielle Maher

Registered manager: Jeremy Farrar

Inspectors

Catherine Fargin, Social Care Inspector

Judith Birchall, Social Care Inspector

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