

1253623

The Spring Children's and Transitional Care Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This service is operated by a private provider and provides care and accommodation for two children who have learning disabilities.

Inspection date: 14 June 2021

This monitoring visit

On 28 and 29 April 2021, Ofsted undertook a full inspection. The home was judged inadequate. In response to that visit, Ofsted issued a notice of restriction of accommodation. In addition, on 21 May 2021, a notice of proposal to cancel the registration of the home was issued.

The purpose of this visit was to consider the home's adherence to the notice of restriction. The provider has adhered to the restriction of accommodation and there are currently no children living at the home.

The home does not have a registered manager. A new manager has yet to be recruited. Despite the staff vacancies, no staff have been recruited. The lack of manager and staff means that it would be unsafe for children to move into the home.

In addition, the required improvements to the interior of the home have not yet commenced. There are no clear timescales for when this work will be completed. This means that the home is not yet ready for children.

At the time of this visit, the responsible individual was on annual leave. A service manager was overseeing the home in his absence. The service manager had limited knowledge about what action had been taken to address the shortfalls identified at the full inspection in April 2021. Currently, there is no written action plan in place to develop and improve the service. This does not provide Ofsted with assurances about the leadership of this home.

The dates of completion for the requirements raised at the previous inspection have not yet expired. These requirements were not monitored and have been restated.

One new requirement has been raised in relation to the visits completed by the independent person. Since the last visit, the independent visitor has not conducted monthly visits during April or May 2021. The independent visitor was of the view that the home was closed and therefore did not require a visit. The provider had not challenged this. This is a missed opportunity to use independent feedback to develop the home.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/04/2021	Full	Inadequate
10/03/2020	Full	Inadequate
20/11/2019	Full	Inadequate
19/02/2019	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 quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who—</p> <p>understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children;</p> <p>use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—</p> <p>understand and apply the home's statement of purpose;</p> <p>ensure that staff—</p> <p>understand and apply the home's statement of purpose;</p> <p>protect and promote each child's welfare;</p> <p>treat each child with dignity and respect;</p> <p>provide personalised care that meets each child's needs, as recorded in the child's relevant plans, taking account of the child's background;</p> <p>help each child to understand and manage the impact of any experience of abuse or neglect. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered person ensuring that staff provide good-quality care.</p>	18 June 2021
<p>The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p>	18 June 2021

<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;</p> <p>have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm;</p> <p>take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child’s welfare; and</p> <p>are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home’s child protection policies;</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)(iii)(vi)(vii)(b))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered person ensuring that staff take the necessary action to protect children from harm.</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 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>ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child;</p> <p>ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child;</p> <p>ensure that the home’s workforce provides continuity of care to each child.</p>	<p>18 June 2021</p>

<p>(Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(c)(d)(e))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered person ensuring that staff are suitably trained, experienced and qualified to deliver care that is consistent with the home's statement of purpose.</p>	
<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. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered person ensuring that staff provide effectively planned care moving in and out of the home.</p>	18 June 2021
<p>The registered person must compile in relation to the children's home a statement ("the statement of purpose") which covers the matters listed in Schedule 1.</p> <p>The registered person must—</p> <p>keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and</p> <p>notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16 (1) (3)(a)(b))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered person ensuring that the staff list is kept up to date.</p>	18 June 2021
<p>A responsible individual must—</p> <p>have the capacity, experience and skills to supervise the management of the home, or the homes, in respect of which the responsible individual is nominated. (Regulation 26 (7)(b))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered provider ensuring that the responsible individual oversees the management of the home and takes action to ensure that children are safe and protected.</p>	18 June 2021

<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. (Regulation 27 (1)(a))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered provider ensuring that a manager is appointed to the home.</p>	18 June 2021
<p>The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety.</p> <p>The requirements are that—</p> <p>full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. (Regulation 32 (1)(3)(d))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered manager ensuring that gaps in employment history are explored.</p>	18 June 2021
<p>The registered person must prepare and implement a policy which is intended to safeguard children accommodated in the children's home from abuse or neglect; and</p> <p>sets out the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation of abuse or neglect. (Regulation 34 (1)(a)(b))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered manager ensuring that staff follow the safeguarding policy in the event of an allegation of abuse or neglect.</p>	18 June 2021
<p>Schedule 4 sets out the other information that the registered person must keep in relation to a children's home.</p> <p>The registered person must—</p> <p>maintain in the home the records in Schedule 4;</p> <p>ensure that the records are kept up to date. (Regulation 37(1) (2)(a)(b))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered manager ensuring that the address of the child prior to admission and upon leaving the home, including the statutory provision, is recorded.</p>	18 June 2021

<p>The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if—</p> <p>there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there. (Regulation 40 (4)(c))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered manager ensuring that significant event notifications are sent without delay and include factual information.</p>	<p>18 June 2021</p>
<p>The registered person must ensure that an independent person visits the children's home at least once each month. (Regulation 44 (1))</p> <p>This specifically relates to the registered manager ensuring that the independent person visits the home each month.</p>	<p>21 July 2021</p>

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: 1253623

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: The Spring Children's and Transitional Care Limited

Registered provider address: 9 Grenville Drive, Birmingham B23 7YX

Responsible individual: Blessing Manyara

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Michelle Spruce, Social Care Inspector

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