

1256973

Registered provider: Cameron & Cooper Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and run by a private organisation. It provides care for up to six children. According to the home's statement of purpose, it caters for children who require therapeutic care and support.

The home has been without a registered manager since May 2019.

Inspection date: 9 December 2021

This monitoring visit

This monitoring inspection took place due to Ofsted receiving several concerning notifications from the provider. A previous monitoring visit took place on 25 November 2021. Two requirements were set because of that visit and remain in place.

The condition of the home has improved since the last monitoring visit. However, during the inspection, one child's bedroom floor was cluttered with clothing and other personal belongings, including some chocolate advent calendars. This represents a potential trip hazard for the child as well as being unhygienic because food items were being stored on the floor. The inspector asked the provider to help the child to sort these issues out during the inspection.

Another child's room has some paint all over the wall from some Halloween-themed decorations. Although it is positive that children can decorate their rooms to their individual tastes, no consideration has been given to helping the child to have a blank canvas to complete further artwork now that Halloween has passed. Another child's room has some unsightly patchwork and filler, which detracts from the otherwise homely touches in the room.

An incident occurred in November 2021, in which the home's internet was disabled to discourage children from playing inappropriate online music. This was a measure which meant that all children, including those who were not involved in the incident, were prevented from enjoying their online activities.

Children are encouraged to live together harmoniously but the responsible individual recognises that this is not always possible. This has led to one child moving from the home to a temporary provision. The responsible individual has liaised with the placing authority but there is the risk of drift, delay and uncertainty. No firm resolution to the child's permanent placement has been established. Various meetings have been held and discussions with the social worker, independent reviewing officer and social work team manager are ongoing. However, the responsible individual has not escalated concerns to the placing authority, nor stressed the absolute urgency of the situation or the potential consequences for the child. Furthermore, the responsible individual has not ensured that the other children in the home have been adequately supported with understanding where the child went or the reasons why. This does not promote positive relationships between children, nor encourage a sense of attachment or security for children.

There have been two medication errors in October 2021. Medical attention was sought on both occasions. The provider completed detailed reports into both incidents and all staff are up to date with their medication training. However, these incidents show that there are key failings in the home's processes. There has been no formal review into these errors, so any learning has not been captured or acted upon.

There has been no registered manager in the home for over two years. A new manager has now been appointed and has been in the role for around four weeks. To date, no application to register has been sent to Ofsted. There are many practice areas that need improving and the new manager is working to identify the priority issues. A key, and continuing, shortfall is staff supervision, which has not taken place with any regularity. This is a missed opportunity to ensure that staff are working consistently and that there are no concerns from the staff which need addressing.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
23/08/2021	Full	Good
15/10/2019	Full	Good
14/02/2019	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
22/05/2018	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. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(i)(ii))</p>	25 January 2022
<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 premises used for the purposes of the home are located so that children are effectively safeguarded;</p> <p>that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(c)(d))</p>	23 January 2022
<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>	23 January 2022

<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>use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(h))</p>	
<p>*The care planning standard is that children—</p> <p>receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b))</p>	23 January 2022
<p>No measure of control or discipline which is excessive, unreasonable or contrary to paragraph (2) may be used in relation to any child.</p> <p>The following measures may not be used to discipline any child—</p> <p>any measure involving punishing a group of children for the behaviour of an individual child. (Regulation 19 (1) (2)(j))</p>	23 January 2022
<p>The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. (Regulation 23 (1))</p>	23 January 2022
<p>The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety.</p> <p>The registered person may only—</p> <p>employ an individual to work at the children's home; or if an individual is employed by a person other than the registered person to work at the home in a position in which the individual may have regular contact with children, allow that individual to work at the home, if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3).</p>	25 January 2022

<p>The requirements are that—</p> <p>the individual is of integrity and good character;</p> <p>the individual has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills for the work that the individual is to perform;</p> <p>the individual is mentally and physically fit for the purposes of the work that the individual is to perform; and</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) (2)(a)(b) (3)(a)(b)(c)(d))</p>	
<p>The registered person must ensure that all employees—</p> <p>receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33 (4)(b))</p>	<p>23 January 2022</p>

*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that others play their role and deliver the high-quality support that is needed to children. This specifically refers to ensuring that any concerns about the placing authority are immediately raised with senior leaders in the authority. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations, including the quality standards', page 11, paragraph 2.4)

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: 1256973

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Cameron & Cooper Limited

Registered provider address: Accord Accountants, 191–193 High Street,
Hampton Hill TW12 1NL

Responsible individual: Camilla McInnes

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Pete Hylton, Regulatory Inspection Manager

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 2021