

1276249

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned children's home that provides care for a maximum of three children. The home cares for children who may have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties or learning disabilities.

The recently appointed home's manager has applied to be registered.

Due to COVID-19, at the request of the Secretary of State, we suspended routine inspections of social care providers carried out under the social care common inspection framework (SCCIF) on 17 March 2020. We returned to routine SCCIF inspections on 12 April 2021.

We last visited this setting 27 April 2021 to carry out a full inspection. The report is published on the Ofsted website.

This inspection was carried out following a requires improvement to be good judgement at the last inspection.

Inspection date: 10 February 2022

Date of last inspection: 26 April 2021

Judgement at last inspection: Requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

This inspection

The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection

This home was judged requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection. At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.

Since the last inspection, a new manager has been appointed. He is currently going through the registration process. The manager has created a supportive, nurturing, happy home where children are loved, and staff are valued. As a result, staff stability has been maintained since the last full inspection, and children say that they like living at the home.

Staff feel fully supported and enjoy their work. Staff share the ethos and vision of the manager, and they are highly motivated. One staff member said, 'The manager has completely turned the home around from what it was previously. We now have a clear picture of where we are going as a home and what our end goals are.'

The manager is reflective, thoughtful and seeks to improve his practice. There is a willingness to accept that things may not work, but also a real desire to get it right for children. As a result, children are receiving care that meets their current and emerging needs.

Risk assessments are of good quality. These assessments and plans provide detailed guidance to staff on how to manage risks safely and effectively. They incorporate the therapeutic approach of the home, and this runs through these documents.

The home is generally welcoming and comfortable. However, the COVID-19 pandemic contributed to a delay in some maintenance work being completed in the home. The environment has started to improve; however, there are still a number of outstanding maintenance issues that require completion.

Leaders and managers have failed to make suitable arrangements to ensure that all staff have had specific training to meet the needs of children prior to them coming to live in the home. One child, who recently moved into the home, is on the autism spectrum, but specific training for staff has not yet been delivered. A plan is now in place to rectify this, with training scheduled very soon.

Incidents and allegations have been appropriately reported to placing local authorities, the designated officer for the local authority and Ofsted. Managers maintain detailed chronologies and have proactively followed up any delay in information-sharing by agencies. Managers undertake lessons-learned exercises where appropriate. As a result, there have been changes to policies and procedures and improved practice.

There is improved evaluation of any incidents, including the use of physical intervention. Managers provide staff with opportunities to reflect on their practice and their responses to incidents. As a result, there has been a reduction in incidents.

Leaders and managers have worked to change the culture of the home, moving to a therapeutic approach, and supporting children to learn through natural consequences rather than sanctions. There is now a high emphasis on recognising and rewarding positive behaviour. Children are responding well to this new approach.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
26/04/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
05/03/2020	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
04/06/2019	Full	Good
28/11/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be 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 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)(d))</p> <p>This is specifically in relation to ensuring that required maintenance work is completed to keep children safe, and that the home is maintained to a good standard of repair.</p>	28 March 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> <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>ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b)(2)(c))</p> <p>This specifically relates to ensuring that staff have the required training to meet the individual needs of children.</p>	28 March 2022

Information about this inspection

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, using the 'Social care common inspection framework'. This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1276249

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Registered provider address: Suite 1 & 5, Riverside Business Centre, Foundry Lane, Milford, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 0RN

Responsible individual: Karl Haywood

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Zoey Lee, 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 2022