

1183173

Registered provider: TLC Youth Care Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home provides care for up to four children who may have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

A registered manager was appointed on the 3 September 2021.

Inspection date: 22 February 2022

Date of last inspection: 25 May 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 improved effectiveness.

Children are making progress. They are safe and well cared for. When the children disagree with each other, staff take action to ensure that any differences are worked through.

Although all children have education provision in place, some children lack motivation or struggle to learn. Staff put boundaries in place to encourage children to focus. Incentives are used to promote good educational attendance. One child has a part-time job and is on track to achieve good exam results.

Documents relating to the children are detailed and well organised. The registered manager has devised child-friendly versions of care plans and risk assessments. It is evident that children engage with these because one child has made amendments to their plan. The progress children make is recognised by staff and the children themselves. Reports about children's progress are regularly shared with their social workers.

Overall, staff respond proactively to any safeguarding issues. Consequently, they keep children safe.

Incident reports are occasionally written in a way that is not clear. This is about the language used to describe incidents being vague and not providing a clear enough description of what happened. The manager does not always add the date when they have reviewed children's incident reports.

Although children are rarely restrained, when this does take place, the records do not always accurately describe how a child was restrained or for how long. This impairs the manager's oversight of the incident in terms of necessity and proportionality.

Staff receive regular supervision feel that there is strong leadership and management in the home. Overall, staff supervision is of good quality. However, more could be done to challenge staff if their approaches do not meet the needs of a child. For example, where a staff member suggested that a child should receive a consequence for taking food, there was no evidence of the manager challenging this member of staff's viewpoint.

The manager is supporting staff to improve their knowledge base through relevant training. Team meetings take place regularly. Staff feel that the team is 'pulling in the right direction' and say that morale is good.

Care for children has significantly improved since the last inspection. The previous requirements have been met.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/05/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
18/02/2020	Full	Outstanding
23/10/2018	Full	Outstanding
02/05/2017	Full	Good

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff understand factors that affect children's motivation to behave in a socially acceptable way. Staff should encourage an enthusiasm for positive behaviour through the use of positive behaviour strategies in line with the child's relevant plans. Staff should consider each child's unique history when deciding what sanctions or approaches are to be used when caring for children. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 39, 8.13)
- The registered person should ensure that staff are familiar with the home's policies on record-keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective and clear recording. Staff should record information about individual children in a non-stigmatising way that distinguishes between fact, opinion and third-party information. Information about the child must always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child and should be clear and specific. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, 14.4)

Information about this 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: 1183173

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: TLC Youth Care Limited

Registered provider address: 19 Harrier Park, Northampton, Northamptonshire
NN4 0QG

Responsible individual: Duncan MacKenzie

Registered manager: Krisna Sisodia

Inspector

Andi Lilley-Tams, 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