

1229534

Registered provider: Halliwell Homes Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a private children's home that provides care for up to eight children. The home's statement of purpose states that children living in this home may have a range of social and emotional difficulties.

The previous manager left their role in September 2021. The new manager registered with Ofsted in December 2021. She is appropriately experienced and qualified to manage a children's home.

Inspection date: 28 March 2022

Date of last inspection: 13 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 this interim inspection, Ofsted judged that it has improved effectiveness.

The manager has been in post since September 2021. She has made some significant improvements to the operation of the home and the quality of care provided to children. At the previous inspection, five requirements were made, and they have all been met. The manager has recruited new staff to ensure that there is a full core staff team in place, and she has established a stronger senior team. Consequently, the staff team has stabilised, and staff morale has improved.

Children and staff recognise the improvements that have been made since the change in managers. The staff team is proud of the children and the progress they make. Children are happier in their home. They have improved relationships with the staff and talk about them fondly.

Children have improved their relationships with each other. They appear relaxed and settled together as a group. Children engage in regular workshops and key-work sessions relating to anti-bullying. The sessions are pitched at children's different age groups and levels of understanding to ensure that they are effective.

Children now have up-to-date placing authority care plans on file. Children's placement plans are personalised to their individual needs. They reflect the aims and objectives requested by the placing authorities and are reviewed regularly to assess children's progress. This ensures that the staff team is working in accordance with children's current plans.

The staff team has improved their monitoring of children's health needs. Children's health records provide staff with detailed guidance on the internal and external support that children require to maintain good health. Staff educate children about healthy eating and food choices through interactive workshops. An in-house nutritionist works closely with the staff team to ensure that children are encouraged to follow healthy diets and lifestyles.

Since the last inspection, the use of restraint has significantly reduced. This is because the staff now work together consistently and help children to feel settled. Records are clear and accurate. The manager's evaluation of restraint records is reflective. She uses feedback from debriefs to identify when children are struggling and adjusts structures, incentives and strategies to support their positive behaviour.

The management of allegations is transparent, and they are appropriately responded to, including notifying relevant professionals without delay. Thorough investigations are implemented to safeguard both children and staff.

Incidents of children going missing from the home have significantly reduced since last summer. Children make safer choices and recognise the importance of staff knowing their whereabouts.

Children's bathrooms have not yet been refurbished and feel institutionalised. This was a recommendation at the last inspection and so this has been escalated to a requirement. In addition to this, some carpets in children's bedrooms and hallways require replacing. The general home environment requires some improvements to the décor to make it feel more homely.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
13/04/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
06/08/2019	Full	Good
30/10/2018	Full	Good
03/07/2018	Full	Inadequate

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>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—</p> <p>ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to—</p> <p>meet the needs of each child; and</p> <p>enable each child to participate in the daily life of the home. (Regulation 6 (2)(c)(i)(ii))</p>	1 June 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: 1229534

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Halliwell Homes Limited

Registered provider address: Pearce House, 80 Cawdor Street, Eccles M30 0QF

Responsible individual: Paul Bliss

Registered manager: Cree Rowbottom

Inspector

Cheryl Field, Social Care Inspector
Louise Redfern, Regulatory Inspection Manager

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