

2613341

iMapcentre Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is privately run. It provides care for up to nine children with learning disabilities.

The manager in post has applied to register with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 16 June 2022

This monitoring visit

This home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 4 and 5 May 2022.

The purpose of this visit was to assess the progress made by the provider to meet the steps set out in the compliance notices issued under section 22a of the Care Standards Act 2000. These related to regulation 8 (the education standard), regulation 12 (the protection of children standard), regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard) and regulation 35 (behaviour management policies and records). A notice to restrict accommodation of any further children until 1 August 2022 was also monitored during the visit.

The provider has complied with the restriction of accommodation. Two children remain living at the home.

One child continues to make progress in his education and now attends for an additional day. However, his education plan created by the home has not been updated to reflect his progress and no report is on file from his most recent personal education planning meeting.

The other child remains on roll at a school but is not attending while a new provision is confirmed. A new provision has been identified but the provider has served notice on the child's placement and therefore plans are stalled until the child moves. The child's activity plan includes informal education activities, and records show that he engages in activities to promote his basic skills and independence. However, he does

not have an education plan that has been developed in the home which provides a coordinated approach and structure to his learning.

The provider requests children's personal education plans, and education, health and care plans from their respective placing authorities. However, they have not been sent and the provider has not escalated their concerns to more senior local authority managers. This means that the staff have limited information on which to plan informal education for a child who is not attending school.

Children's risk assessments are updated in response to incidents and provide strategies for the staff to follow to minimise risks. Children have individualised personal evacuation plans in place in the event of fire.

Training for staff to manage known specific risks and vulnerabilities for individual children, such as pica traits, has not yet taken place although it is scheduled. Staff are trained in first aid; however, records show that they do not always seek medical advice promptly when an incident occurs, which potentially puts children's health at risk.

Remedial action was taken promptly to replace a damaged window restrictor following an incident. One restrictor was seen to be damaged during this visit and the staff immediately alerted the maintenance team to repair it. Daily checks are now being introduced to make sure that restrictors are securely attached. However, Ofsted was not notified of the original serious incident when a child was able to leave his window to access a restricted area.

Management oversight of records is improving and identifies how practice can be improved, including the need for additional training. The manager has devised an audit tool for the responsible individual to use as additional management oversight for the home. However, children's files are not consistently reviewed by senior care workers to ensure that they are up to date. Meetings are held to review children's plans with key members in the organisation, but it is unclear if this results in changes to plans as updates are not indicated in children's files.

Managers review any incidents following the use of physical intervention to drive improvements to practice. However, inconsistencies in recording are not always identified and addressed.

Debriefs now take place with staff members involved in physical interventions. Children's well-being is monitored if they do not have the verbal or cognitive capacity for staff to speak to them after a physical intervention takes place. The manager plans to improve the observational record to provide additional narrative information.

Several issues in the home environment need to be addressed, including replacement of flooring and carpeting, accidental damage to a window and redecoration. Ofsted acknowledges that there are currently delays in obtaining materials to make repairs. Some repairs cannot be completed until a child moves

from the home. However, this means that none of the available bedrooms are ready for children to move into currently.

The provider has demonstrated sufficient progress to meet the notice served under regulation 35. A requirement has been made about recording the duration of physical interventions. New notices have been served under regulations 8, 12 and 13.

The restriction of accommodation remains in place to allow the provider to make the necessary improvements to meet the compliance notices and improve the physical environment.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/05/2022	Full	Inadequate
03/11/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
16/06/2021	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, the 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 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>understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person;</p> <p>take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and</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;</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)(a)(i)(iii)(v)(vi)(b)(d))</p> <p>Specifically, the registered person should ensure that risk management plans are in place that meet children's individual needs and vulnerabilities. The registered person should ensure that the staff identify and respond to risks as recorded in children's plans. The staff should take</p>	28 August 2022

<p>appropriate action to keep children safe and ensure their well-being. The home's environment should be maintained to ensure that it is a safe and suitable place for children to live in.</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</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;</p> <p>understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home;</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)(c)(f)(h))</p> <p>In particular, the registered person should ensure that the staff receive training that is relevant to the specific needs of children. Individuals with responsibility for reviewing and monitoring children's plans and care should do so promptly to ensure that all staff deliver care in response to children's changing needs and progress. Leaders and managers should ensure that there is effective oversight of recording and practice to drive improvement.</p>	<p>28 August 2022</p>
<p>*The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that staff—</p>	<p>28 August 2022</p>

<p>help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans;</p> <p>understand the barriers to learning that each child may face and take appropriate action to help the child to overcome any such barriers;</p> <p>help a child who is excluded from school, or who is of compulsory school age but not attending school, to access educational and training support throughout the period of exclusion or non-attendance and to return to school as soon as possible. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(viii))</p> <p>Specifically, the registered person should create an education plan that documents any learning that staff complete with children. Education plans for children attending school should be reviewed and updated. Current relevant education plans should be obtained that inform the home's plans. Leaders and managers should continue to escalate concerns regarding delay in identifying an appropriate school to support children's learning and development.</p>	
<p>The registered person must ensure that—</p> <p>within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes—</p> <p>a description of the measure and its duration;</p> <p>within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person")—</p> <p>has signed the record to confirm it is accurate. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(iv)(b)(ii))</p> <p>In particular, a record should be made on each occasion where a measure is used to manage a child's behaviour, which includes the duration of the measure used. Leaders and managers should evaluate the record to identify any improvements to recording and practice in behaviour management.</p>	28 August 2022
<p>The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who—</p>	28 August 2022

<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>ensure that staff—</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>make decisions about the day-to-day arrangements for each child, in accordance with the child's relevant plans, which give the child an appropriate degree of freedom and choice. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(ii)(iii)(iv)(ix))</p> <p>Specifically, staff must follow children's individualised plans to ensure that children's care promotes their welfare and accords with their relevant plans.</p>	
<p>The registered person must maintain records ("case records") for each child which—</p> <p>include the information and documents listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child. (Regulation 36 (1)(a))</p> <p>Specifically, the registered person must obtain all relevant plans and reports relating to children to ensure that the staff deliver care that meets placing authorities' expectations.</p>	28 August 2022
<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; and</p> <p>the registered provider—</p> <p>is an organisation or a partnership. (Regulation 27 (1)(a)(b)(i))</p>	28 August 2022

<p>The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if—</p> <p>there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious.</p> <p>A notification made under this regulation—</p> <p>must include details of—</p> <p>the matter;</p> <p>the other persons, bodies or organisations (if any) who or which have been notified; and</p> <p>any actions taken by the registered person as a result of the matter;</p> <p>must be made or confirmed in writing. (Regulation 40 (4)(e) (5)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(b))</p>	<p>28 August 2022</p>
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*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the independent person appointed carries out a rigorous assessment that identifies areas of practice improvement and regularly considers the views of stakeholders. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.5)
- The registered person should ensure that consideration is given to the frequency of supervision. Staff's performance should be appraised formally on an annual basis to drive improvements in practice. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraphs 13.1 and 13.5)
- The registered person should ensure that electronic records, for example in relation to recruitment, are easily accessible to individuals who legitimately need to view them. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 14.2)

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: 2613341

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: iMapcentre Limited

Registered provider address: iMap School, Barrowmore Estate, Barnhouse Lane, Great Barrow, Chester CH3 7JA

Responsible individual: Anthony Yearsley

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Karen Willson, Social Care Inspector

Nicola Shaw, Social Care Inspector

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