

1259178

Registered provider: Solid Global Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home provides accommodation and therapeutic care for two children who are affected by mental ill health. It is owned and operated by a small private company.

The registered manager resigned in January 2022. A new manager has been appointed and is in the process of applying to register with Ofsted.

Inspection dates: 8 and 9 August 2022

This monitoring visit

This monitoring visit took place following an anonymous complaint sent to Ofsted raising safeguarding concerns.

Following the monitoring visit on 6 and 7 July 2022, a notice restricting the accommodation of new children at this home was issued on 8 July 2022. One compliance notice was also issued under regulation 13, relating to the leadership and management of the home.

One child continues to live in the home. The provider has adhered to the notice of restriction and no children have moved into the home since the last visit.

Since the last inspection, the previously appointed manager has stepped down. A new manager has been appointed and has applied to register with Ofsted.

The responsible individual is a practising clinician. As part of his role, he is assessing and providing treatment to the child in the home. The responsible individual and the child's local authority have not clearly agreed the responsible individual's level of engagement with the child and the scope of his clinical involvement. This means that professionals are not working collaboratively to meet the child's needs and care planning is ineffective.

The manager has started to review the staff's safer recruitment checks. This was identified as a shortfall at the last inspection. Staff who have worked overseas still do not have good conduct certificates from the relevant countries. However, these have been requested. In addition, risk assessments and Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been completed. The manager was unable to demonstrate the full extent of the progress made, due to records being disorganised and systems to monitor these checks not being in place.

Staff have undertaken training since the last inspection. All staff have completed behaviour management training. Some staff, including agency staff, have undertaken training in the home's therapeutic model of care. The manager has not fully updated the training matrix, therefore, the monitoring of staff training and the ability to identify gaps in staff's knowledge and skills is not yet fully developed.

Risk assessments and a behaviour support plan are in place to support the staff to care for the child. However, the manager and staff are not always quick enough to respond to emerging risks. For example, on the first day of the inspection, the child was able to gain access to the medication cupboard and knew the combination code to the safe where the medication was stored. On a number of occasions, the child has taken the keys to the home from staff. Immediate strategies to prevent this from happening again were not implemented. This has the potential to impact on the child's safety.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/06/2021	Full	Good
28/09/2018	Interim	Not judged
05/06/2018	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>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>have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of 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)(iii)(d))</p> <p>Specifically, this relates to requiring the registered person to ensure that health and safety checks and annual servicing are completed, and that staff have the training and knowledge to understand and identify risks to children.</p>	<p>14 August 2022</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>lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home’s statement of purpose;</p>	<p>14 August 2022</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; and</p> <p>use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1) (2)(a)(c)(f)(h))</p> <p>This specifically relates to ensuring that staff have the training identified in the statement of purpose and that leaders and managers have systems in place to monitor, review and develop the quality of care in the home.</p>	
<p>The registered person must—</p> <p>keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and</p> <p>notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16 (3)(a)(b))</p>	14 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 not, or does not intend to be, in day-to-day charge of the home.</p> <p>If the registered provider appoints a person to manage the home, the registered provider must, without delay, give HMCI notice of—</p> <p>the name of the person so appointed; and</p> <p>the date on which the appointment takes effect. (Regulation 27 (1)(a)(b)(iii) (2)(a)(b))</p>	14 August 2022
<p>A person may only manage a children’s home if—</p>	14 August 2022

<p>the person is of integrity and good character;</p> <p>having regard to the size of the home, its statement of purpose, and the number and needs (including any needs arising from any disability) of the children—</p> <p>the person has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills to manage the home effectively and lead the care of children.</p> <p>For the purposes of paragraph (1)(b)(i), a person has the appropriate experience and qualification if the person has—</p> <p>within the last 5 years, worked for at least 2 years in a position relevant to the residential care of children; and</p> <p>worked for at least one year in a role requiring the supervision and management of staff working in a care role. (Regulation 28 (1)(a)(b)(i) (2)(a)(b))</p>	
<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</p> <p>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,</p> <p>if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3).</p> <p>The requirements are that—</p> <p>the individual has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills for 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.</p> <p>For the purposes of paragraph (3)(b), an individual who works in the home in a care role has the appropriate qualification if, by the relevant date, the individual has attained—</p>	<p>14 August 2022</p>

<p>the Level 3 Diploma for Residential Childcare (England) ("the Level 3 Diploma"); or a qualification which the registered person considers to be equivalent to the Level 3 Diploma.</p> <p>The relevant date is—</p> <p>in the case of an individual who starts working in a care role in a home after 1st April 2014, the date which falls 2 years after the date on which the individual started working in a care role in a home. (Regulation 32 (1) (2)(a)(b) (3)(a)(b)(d) (4)(a)(b) (5)(a))</p> <p>This specifically relates to ensuring that all staff's full employment histories are explored and that overseas checks are undertaken where relevant. Additionally, that staff complete an appropriate qualification within timescales.</p>	
<p>Schedule 4 sets out the other information that the registered person must keep in relation to a children's home.</p> <p>The registered person must—</p> <p>maintain in the home the records in Schedule 4;</p> <p>ensure that the records are kept up to date. (Regulation 37 (1) (2)(a)(b))</p> <p>This specifically relates to keeping a register of children who come to live at the home.</p>	14 August 2022
<p>The registered person must ensure that an independent person visits the children's home at least once each month.</p> <p>When the independent person is carrying out a visit, the registered person must help the independent person—</p> <p>to inspect the premises of the home and such of the home's records (except for a child's case records unless the child and the child's placing authority consent) as the independent person requires. (Regulation 44 (1) (2)(b))</p> <p>Specifically, that a visit is facilitated each month and a report sent to Ofsted.</p>	14 August 2022
<p>The registered person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children ("a quality of care review") at least once every 6 months.</p>	14 August 2022

<p>After completing a quality of care review, the registered person must produce a written report about the quality of care review and the actions which the registered person intends to take as a result of the quality of care review ("the quality of care review report").</p> <p>The registered person must—</p> <p>supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality of care review is completed. (Regulation 45 (1) (3) (4)(a))</p>	
<p>The registered person must review the appropriateness and suitability of the location of the premises used for the purposes of the children's home at least once in each calendar year taking into account the requirement in regulation 12(2)(c) (the protection of children standard).</p> <p>When conducting the review, the registered person must consult, and take into account the views of, each relevant person. (Regulation 46 (1) (2))</p>	14 August 2022

*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that where a child looked after is placed in a home from a different local authority area, that the local authority in which the home is situated is notified that an out of borough child has been placed in a home in their area. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 11, paragraph 2.6)

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: 1259178

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Solid Global Limited

Registered provider address: Suite G, Eldon House, 24 Central Square, High Street, Erdington, Birmingham, West Midlands B23 6RY

Responsible individual: Octovus Muchemenye

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Lisa O'Donovan, Social Care Inspector

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