

# 1233899

**Active Ark Limited**

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## **Information about this children's home**

This home is owned by a private provider. It is registered to provide care for up to two children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

There is a registered manager in post. She registered with Ofsted in August 2018.

**Inspection date:** 1 December 2022

## **This monitoring visit**

This home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 14 and 15 November 2022. Following this visit, Ofsted issued three compliance notices under section 22a of the Care Standards Act 2000. These related to regulation 12 (the protection of children standard), regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard) and regulation 14 (the care planning standard).

This visit was carried out to monitor the action taken by the provider to meet the compliance notices.

There are now clear risk assessments for children which outline their current risks and vulnerabilities. These provide staff with clear guidance about the steps that they should take to reduce risks to children. The risk assessments have been updated when a risk changes and include strategies which are agreed in multi-agency meetings.

Staff understand their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe. Although there are risks to children who go missing, staff are taking consistent action in line with children's individualised plans to reduce these risks.

Direct work has been carried out with children to support their understanding of how to keep safe. Referrals have been made to external agencies to ensure that children are receiving appropriate help and support.

Management oversight of the quality of care that children are receiving has improved sufficiently. Staff have access to children's relevant plans and understand children's individual needs and how to address them.

Staff have received training in relevant matters, such as epilepsy and domestic violence. The manager ensures that training has a positive impact on staff's knowledge and skills by completing practice-based supervision sessions which provide a forum for staff to reflect on the training that they have received.

Hygiene standards in the home have improved although further improvement work is planned to address maintenance work in one of the bathrooms.

In Ofsted's opinion, the provider has demonstrated that they have met the steps in the compliance notices.

Recommendations and requirements made at the last inspection were not reviewed as part of this visit. Therefore, these are restated below.

## **Recent inspection history**

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
15/11/2022	Full	Inadequate
02/03/2022	Full	Good
13/06/2019	Full	Good
24/10/2018	Full	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 quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who—</p> <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>help each child to understand and manage the impact of any experience of abuse or neglect;</p> <p>help each child to develop resilience and skills that prepare the child to return home, to live in a new placement or to live independently as an adult. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(v)(vi)(c)(i))</p> <p>In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff help children to understand their past experiences of abuse and neglect and the impact this has had on them.</p> <p>Further to this, the registered person must ensure that children are helped to develop the skills to live independently.</p>	15 December 2022
<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>	15 December 2022

<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 each child to understand the importance and value of education, learning, training and employment;</p> <p>promote opportunities for each child to learn informally;</p> <p>help each child who is above compulsory school age to participate in further education, training or employment and to prepare for future care, education or employment;</p> <p>help each child to attend education or training in accordance with the expectations in the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(iv)(v)(ix)(x))</p> <p>In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff understand children's educational needs and how to support them to achieve in education.</p> <p>Further to this, the registered person must ensure that children are helped to follow good routines which facilitate engagement in education and training.</p>	
<p>The health and well-being standard is that—</p> <p>the health and well-being needs of children are met;</p> <p>children receive advice, services and support in relation to their health and well-being; and</p> <p>children are helped to lead healthy lifestyles.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that staff help each child to—</p> <p>achieve the health and well-being outcomes that are recorded in the child's relevant plans;</p>	<p>15 December 2022</p>

<p>understand the child's health and well-being needs and the options that are available in relation to the child's health and well-being, in a way that is appropriate to the child's age and understanding;</p> <p>that each child has access to such dental, medical, nursing, psychiatric and psychological advice, treatment and other services as the child may require. (Regulation 10 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(c))</p> <p>In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff understand children's health needs and how to meet them. Further to this, they must ensure that children receive appropriate help and encouragement to address their own health needs.</p> <p>The registered person must ensure that children attend routine appointments, such as sight tests. When children are reluctant to attend, staff must help them to attend and make repeat appointments to encourage them to attend.</p>	
<p>The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on—</p> <p>mutual respect and trust;</p> <p>an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and</p> <p>positive responses to other children and adults.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that staff—</p> <p>help each child to develop socially aware behaviour;</p> <p>encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and understanding;</p> <p>help each child to develop and practise skills to resolve conflicts positively and without harm to anyone;</p> <p>help each child to understand, in a way that is appropriate according to the child's age and understanding, personal,</p>	15 December 2022

<p>sexual and social relationships, and how those relationships can be supportive or harmful;</p> <p>help each child to develop the understanding and skills to recognise or withdraw from a damaging, exploitative or harmful relationship;</p> <p>understand and communicate to children that bullying is unacceptable. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)(vii)(xii))</p>	
<p>The registered person must compile in relation to the children's home a statement ("the statement of purpose") which covers the matters listed in Schedule 1.</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 (1) (3)(a)(b))</p>	15 December 2022
<p>The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. (Regulation 23 (1))</p> <p>This relates to staff not administering medication unless they have received training to do this safely.</p>	15 December 2022
<p>The registered person must ensure that all employees—</p> <p>receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience; and</p> <p>have their performance and fitness to perform their roles appraised at least once every year. (Regulation 33 (4)(b)(c))</p>	15 December 2022
<p>The registered person must prepare and implement a policy ("the behaviour management policy") which sets out—</p> <p>how appropriate behaviour is to be promoted in the children's home; and</p>	15 December 2022

<p>the measures of control, discipline and restraint which may be used in relation to children in the home.</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>the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; and</p> <p>a description of any injury to the child or any other person, and any medical treatment administered, as a result of the measure;</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 spoken to the user about the measure; and</p> <p>has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and</p> <p>within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (1)(a)(b) (3)(a)(vii)(viii)(b)(i)(ii)(c))</p> <p>This relates specifically to the use of consequences. The registered person must ensure that these are reviewed for effectiveness and that the child is spoken to about the consequence.</p>	
<p>The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if—</p> <p>a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation;</p> <p>an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious;</p> <p>there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there;</p> <p>a child protection enquiry involving a child—</p>	<p>15 December 2022</p>

is instigated; or

concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or

there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious.

(Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))

## 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:** 1233899

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** Active Ark Limited

**Registered provider address:** Active Ark, Unit E, Baron Way, Kingmoor Business Park, Carlisle CA6 4SJ

**Responsible individual:** Louise Matthews

**Registered manager:** Heather Rooke

## Inspector

Emma Thornton, Social Care Inspector

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