

1252023

Registered provider: T-Junction Children's Services Ltd

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately owned. The home is registered to provide care for up to three children with social and emotional difficulties.

The manager is suitably qualified and experienced and is registered with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 8 December 2022

This monitoring visit

This visit was carried out to monitor compliance notices set by Ofsted following the last inspection. The purpose of the visit was to review these notices, which are in relation to safeguarding children and the leadership and management of the home.

Staff are now knowledgeable about their safeguarding responsibilities, in particular the reporting of disclosures made by children. Managers ensure that staff have regular supervision meetings with their manager and, when concerns are raised, these are acted on. For instance, when concerns are raised about staff team dynamics impacting the care of the children, managers from another home are asked to review this. This provides independent oversight. However, records of discussions in staff supervision sessions about children are sometimes limited and unclear.

Direct work has taken place with children on the impact of bullying. Conversations have taken place on how to be kind to each other, both at the home with peers and outside the home. This could be further enhanced by staff learning how to talk about the impact of bullying to children who use non-verbal communication methods. Managers have also ensured that staff now have training on identifying different aspects of bullying behaviours.

Managers have ensured that staff, including non-permanent and agency staff, have had basic training to be able to use alternative communication methods with children. This training provides staff with practical ways to be able to communicate with children who are non-verbal. To further enhance learning, staff have attended several courses about working with children with learning disabilities and associated disorders.

The home's statement of purpose now reflects which children can be accommodated, including children with learning disabilities. This statement of purpose details that staff will have the skills and the training to ensure that they can communicate with all children.

Staff confirmed that, since the last inspection, no animals have been brought into the home. Some children continue to enjoy horse riding away from the home.

At this monitoring visit, the requirements and recommendation made at the last inspection were not reviewed. Actions to address requirements will be reviewed at the next inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/10/2022	Full	Inadequate
15/06/2021	Full	Good
23/10/2019	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
09/04/2019	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 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 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 and practise skills to resolve conflicts positively and without harm to anyone;</p> <p>are provided with supervision and support to enable them to understand and manage their own feelings and responses to the behaviour and emotions of children, and to help children to do the same;</p> <p>have the skills to recognise incidents or indications of bullying and how to deal with them;</p> <p>that each child is encouraged to build and maintain positive relationships with others.</p> <p>(Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(iv)(x)(xiii)(b))</p> <p>In particular, this relates to reducing bullying incidents in the home, undertaking work with children to improve their social interactions and for staff to receive support through documented supervisions in managing their own feelings.</p>	8 December 2022
<p>*The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure that staff—</p>	8 December 2022

<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>manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other;</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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(iv)(b))</p> <p>In particular, this relates to risk assessing any possible risk, including from pets, reporting of disclosures made by children and completing work with children to reduce the risks of them causing harm to each other.</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 promotes their welfare.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—</p> <p>lead and manage the home 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>ensure that staff work as a team where appropriate;</p> <p>ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child;</p> <p>ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child;</p> <p>ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to 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>8 December 2022</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)(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(h))</p> <p>In particular, this relates to staff receiving relevant training, support to work as a team and the manager making effective use of monitoring systems to drive improvement.</p>	
<p>The care planning standard is that children—</p> <p>receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home;</p> <p>have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that children admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children or whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home's statement of purpose. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a))</p> <p>In particular, this refers to admissions being in line with the home's conditions of registration.</p>	8 December 2022
<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. (Regulation 16 (1))</p>	8 December 2022
<p>The registered person must ensure that all employees have their performance and fitness to perform their roles appraised at least once every year. (Regulation 33 (4)(c))</p>	8 December 2022

*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that all staff consistently follow policies and procedures, understand their roles and responsibilities and have clear lines of accountability. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 54, paragraph 10.20)

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: 1252023

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: T-Junction Children's Services Ltd

Registered provider address: 27 The Pastures, Narborough, Leicester LE19 3DS

Responsible individual: Timothy Clare

Registered manager: Susan Bird

Inspector

Simon Hunter, Social Care Inspector

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