

SC437171

John-Edwards Care Homes Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home provides care for up to five children who may have learning and physical disabilities. The home offers long-term care for some children and a short-break service for others. At the time of this visit, three children were living in the home and one child was receiving a short break.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since July 2022.

Inspection date: 24 November 2022

This monitoring visit

This home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 12 and 13 October 2022. At that inspection, shortfalls were identified in safeguarding and restraint practices, staff's interactions with children, children's plans and records, the quality of the environment and the leadership and management of the home. Following the inspection, six requirements and one recommendation were made.

At this visit, it was assessed that effective action has been taken to meet three of the requirements and the recommendation. Progress has been made in the remaining requirements, but this work is not yet completed.

Leaders and managers have reviewed safeguarding and whistle-blowing practices. Staff have been retrained and received additional training. Safeguarding systems have been reviewed and improved to ensure that all the required information and actions are recorded appropriately. Since the previous inspection, there have been no safeguarding events so the effectiveness of this work cannot yet be tested.

Leaders and managers have reviewed children's records, including care and health plans. These plans are now up to date, reflect children's needs and provide clear guidance for staff. More work is taking place regarding the use of walking harnesses and deprivation of liberty safeguards.

A new system for tracking and recording children's health appointments has been implemented. Records now provide evidence of health appointments attended, the outcome of these appointments and that children's health needs are being addressed.

The quality of the environment has improved. The home is clean and tidy throughout. Children now benefit from living in a pleasant home.

Staff were seen positively interacting with children. There was a relaxed and happy atmosphere at the home, which the children were seen to enjoy.

Leaders and managers have reviewed and improved the assessment process of matching new children to the home. Since the previous inspection, there have been no new children so it is not yet possible to determine the effectiveness of these improvements.

Staff morale has improved since the previous inspection. Leaders and managers consulted with staff about the team dynamics and on staff retention and development.

Staff recruitment remains ongoing. Since the previous inspection, two new members of staff have been recruited.

Staff rotas require further improvement as they do not consistently demonstrate who is on duty. This means that it is not possible to evidence if children's commissioned staffing levels have been consistently adhered to in practice.

The quality of staff supervision has improved. However, further improvement is required to ensure that this is an effective tool for the development and support of staff, including when risk assessments are required. Some supervisors have undergone additional training to support this improvement.

Leaders and managers are now ensuring that any agency staff who work at the home have been subject to safer recruitment practices.

Overall, the quality and effectiveness of the manager's monitoring have improved. Ongoing discussions are taking place with the home's independent visitor regarding their role.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/10/2022	Full	Inadequate
20/04/2021	Full	Good
12/11/2019	Full	Requires improvement to be good
31/07/2019	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>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>help each child to understand how to keep safe;</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>are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home’s child protection policies;</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 effectiveness of the home’s child protection policies is monitored regularly.</p> <p>(Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(e))</p>	<p>24 January 2023</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>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>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>24 January 2023</p>
<p>Restraint in relation to a child is only permitted for the purpose of preventing—</p> <p>injury to any person (including the child).</p> <p>Restraint in relation to a child must be necessary and proportionate. (Regulation 20 (1)(a) (2))</p> <p>In particular, ensure that the use of restrictive equipment, such as walking harnesses, is detailed in the child’s plans and is subject to a deprivation of liberty safeguards procedure. In addition, competency assessment must be carried out to</p>	<p>24 January 2023</p>

assess the ability of a child to give their consent to any restrictive practices. These assessments must be subject to regular review.	
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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: SC437171

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: John-Edwards Care Homes Limited

Registered provider address: 1 Suffolk Way, Sevenoaks TN13 1YL

Responsible individual: Suzanne Champion

Registered manager: Alicia Khusal

Inspectors

Wendy Anderson, Social Care Inspector

Martin Brown, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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Textphone: 0161 618 8524
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