

SC036740

Nottinghamshire County Council

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A local authority operates this secure children's home. It is approved by the Department for Education to restrict children's liberty.

The home can accommodate up to 20 children aged between 10 and 17 years. It provides accommodation for up to 12 children placed by the Youth Custody Service, and has up to eight places for children accommodated under section 25 of the Children Act 1989.

Twelve children were living at the home at the time of the monitoring visit.

Admission of any child under section 25 of the Children Act 1989 who is under 13 years of age requires the approval of the Secretary of State.

The commissioning of health services in this home is the statutory responsibility of NHS England under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Education is provided on site.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since May 2018.

Inspection date: 22 November 2023

This monitoring visit

The home was judged inadequate at the full inspection carried out on 24 to 26 October 2023. Following this inspection, Ofsted issued two compliance notices.

The purpose of this monitoring visit was to review the actions taken in response to one compliance notice. This relates to regulation 20, restraint and deprivation of liberty.

The second compliance notice, two requirements and three recommendations made at the inspection in October 2023 will be reviewed at the next full inspection. Suitable action has been taken to address all the action points set out in the compliance notice.

The registered manager has provided staff and managers with training on the legal criteria for the use of managing children away. In addition, training and staff guidance has also been provided on using sanctions, restorative and reflective approaches. This more positively supports children with their presenting behaviour.

Managers and staff demonstrate that they fully understand the learning from the training, guidance and briefings provided. This ensures that the use of managing children away is only used when the legal criteria is met. In turn, this improves care practice and the daily lived experiences of the children.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/10/2023	Full	Inadequate
18/07/2023	Full	Inadequate
19/07/2022	Full	Good
05/01/2022	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
<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>details of the child's behaviour leading to the use of the measure; the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(ii)(vii))</p> <p>In particular, managing away and consequences records should be accurate. These records must fully detail the incident and the action taken. The registered manager must effectively review and evaluate their use. This is to ensure that the use is appropriate, proportionate, restorative and effective.</p>	28 December 2023
<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>Use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b)(h))</p> <p>The registered manager must implement an effective monitoring system to ensure the efficient service analysis and oversight of children's day-to-day care arrangements. In particular, to oversee the use of the restriction of liberty, including managing away, and the use of sanctions.</p>	19 January 2024

*These requirements are subject of a compliance notice.

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the progress in education can be measured and evidenced in various ways, including, but not limited to, success in academic, vocational and other awards and qualifications; other formal attainment tests that are part of national assessment arrangements; and teachers' ongoing assessments. Measurements of progress should include qualitative information, such as how well the child is being prepared for their next stage of education, training or employment, and quantitative data where available. In particular, leaders need to improve the quality of feedback that children receive so that children know what they have done well and what they need to do to improve the quality of their work. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 26, paragraph 5.2)
- The registered person should ensure that they make suitable arrangements for the safe administration of children's medication, and the storage and disposal of controlled drugs, and that fridge temperatures are checked daily and escalated when out of range. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 35, paragraph 7.15)
- The registered person should ensure that children's records are clearly recorded. Staff should record information on individual children in a non-stigmatising way that will be helpful to children. In particular, ensure that terminology and language used in records is appropriate, including considering the use of such words as 'dysregulated', 'compliant' and 'the goldfish bowl'. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 62, paragraph 14.4)

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: SC036740

Provision sub-type: Secure Unit

Registered provider: Nottinghamshire County Council

Registered provider address: Nottinghamshire County Council, County Hall,
Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QP

Responsible individual: Jennifer Whiston

Registered manager: Paul Thomas

Inspectors

Debbie Foster, Social Care Inspector
Shaun Common, His Majesty's Inspector

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