

1235653

Registered provider: Children of The Mangrove Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home provides care for up to five children who experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, there were five children living in the home.

The home registered with Ofsted in April 2016. The manager registered with Ofsted in April 2021.

The inspector was aware during this inspection that an allegation has been made that a serious incident has occurred at the setting since the last inspection. This is under investigation by the appropriate authorities. While Ofsted does not have the power to investigate incidents of this kind, actions taken by the setting in response to the incident were considered alongside other evidence available at the time of the inspection to inform the inspector's judgements.

Inspection date: 8 February 2024

Date of last inspection: 13 September 2023

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector has looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Leaders and managers respond effectively to safeguarding matters and respond appropriately to matters of concern. The allegation that led to this inspection has been managed appropriately. The organisation uses an external social care consultant to attend team meetings and deliver bespoke training for staff. This training includes operational safeguarding that covers whistle-blowing, allegations and how confident staff are to disclose concerns, as well as professional boundary-setting.

Staff show a good knowledge and awareness of safeguarding procedures, including managing allegations, the lone-working policy and whistle-blowing processes.

Safeguarding incidents are managed appropriately. Staff have restorative and reflective discussions with children following incidents. Key-work sessions also support children with their identified needs. If children go missing from the home, staff follow missing-from-care protocols in place for each child appropriately and maintain regular contact with children to encourage their safe return home.

Children's care plans are specific to the needs of each child. These are updated to reflect risk and note children's progress. Children's risk assessments are thorough. However, some of the information in some of the children's records is historical and may confuse new staff regarding management of the day-to-day risks.

Staff are resilient and respond appropriately to children's complex needs. They demonstrate consistency and empathy when responding to concerns or enforcing the house rules. Staff develop positive relationships with children and know them well.

Staff are sufficiently trained in effective de-escalation techniques. During the inspection, staff appropriately supported one child in crisis. Staff were able to successfully de-escalate the situation.

Children are supported to attend education. For those not in formal education, alternative provisions are in place, such as online teaching and home tuition. Staff support children to develop their independence skills. One child has successfully started working part time. This has increased their self-esteem, autonomy and time management and organisational skills.

The registered manager and staff receive regular and effective supervision. Staff meetings are well attended. The home's psychotherapist attends these monthly meetings and offers staff space to reflect on incidents of concern, as well as on their own practice. This helps to further assess children's behaviours.

The requirement raised at the full inspection has been met. One recommendation has been restated.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
13/09/2023	Full	Good
02/08/2022	Full	Good
22/02/2022	Full	Good
06/01/2020	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that when there are safeguarding concerns for a child, their placement plan is updated, including details of the steps the home may take to manage these risks on a day-to-day basis. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 42, paragraph 9.5)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1235653

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Children of The Mangrove Limited

Registered provider address: Chester House, Fulham Green, 81-83 Fulham High Street, London SW6 3JA

Responsible individual: Knowlton Crichlow

Registered manager: Eileen Moses

Inspector

Amanda Burrows, Social Care Inspector

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