

1234990

The Percy Hedley Foundation

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and managed by the Percy Hedley Foundation. It offers care and accommodation for up to 14 children who may have physical disabilities, learning disabilities and/or sensory impairment. The accommodation consists of a residential unit and a three-bedroom cottage.

There is currently no registered manager at this home.

A full inspection was carried out on 4 and 5 May 2021 which identified a number of failures in respect to the quality of leadership and management. In response, two compliance notices were issued under regulation 13 and regulation 33.

A monitoring visit was carried out on 22 June 2021. The inspector found that the compliance notice under regulation 33 was met. However, there were shortfalls identified in staff recording, the quality of management oversight and staff training. A compliance notice was reissued under regulation 13.

The Percy Hedley Foundation are to close this children's home on 30 September 2021.

Inspection date: 24 August 2021

This monitoring visit

This visit was carried out to monitor the action taken by the provider in response to the compliance notice. The visit included a review of documents, a tour of the buildings, observations of children and young people and discussions with staff and a parent. There were four children and one young person living in the home at the time of the visit.

The inspector found that the provider has taken effective action and met the steps in the compliance notice.

The interim manager has ensured that there is effective management oversight of all incidents involving children. Since the last inspection, the manager has analysed the recording system and identified weaknesses. She has introduced a new system that records management oversight. This includes the scrutiny of children's records and rectifying errors.

Staff allocated to care for children with complex medical needs are adequately trained. The interim manager has ensured that staff are appropriately allocated and have the necessary skills to care for children. The manager has reviewed the staff training needs and, where she has identified gaps, staff have been enrolled onto training courses.

The interim manager has commenced a review the children's files, including individual risk assessments. The shortfall identified in the last inspection in a particular child's risk assessment has been addressed. The manager has a plan in place to review all other risk assessments to ensure that they are up to date and relevant.

The interim manager and responsible individual have regular meetings with senior leaders to review plans for closing the home. These meetings help the manager to continually risk assess, manage resources and ensure that there are sufficient staff to meet the children's needs.

The staff team are committed to caring for the children. While saddened by the forthcoming closure, staff are focussed on the children enjoying positive experiences and receiving good-quality care throughout the remaining time of them living in the home. One parent was complimentary about staff, describing them as 'amazing' in how they have helped their child to make progress in recent weeks.

The manager is working with the children's placing authorities to plan each child's move to a new home. The staff have supported children with introductions to their new carers. This includes sharing information about children's needs, likes and dislikes. In addition, staff have created social stories, which are read with children to help them understand what is happening in their lives. One child was very happy to move to their new home and settled well.

The previously issued requirements under regulations 14, 35 and 36 were not fully reviewed during this visit. For this reason, they are reissued.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/05/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good

24/09/2019	Full	Requires improvement to be good
12/06/2019	Full	Inadequate
01/08/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be 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, the 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
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that arrangements are in place to— ensure the effective induction of each child into the home; and that each child's relevant plans are followed. (Regulation 14 (1)(a) (2)(b)(i)(c)) This was not considered as part of this inspection.	5 November 2021
The registered person must ensure that— 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— the name of the child; details of the child's behaviour leading to the use of the measure; the date, time and location of the use of the measure; a description of the measure and its duration; details of any methods used or steps taken to avoid the need to use the measure; the name of the person who used the measure ("the user"), and of any other person present when the measure was used;	5 November 2021

the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; and a description of any injury to the child or any other person, and any medical treatment administered, as a result of the measure; 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")— has spoken to the user about the measure; and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and within five 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 (3)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii)(b)(i)(ii)(c))	
The registered person must maintain records ("case records") for each child which— include the information and documents listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child; are kept up to date; and are signed and dated by the author of each entry. (Regulation 36 (1)(a)(b)(c)) This was not considered as part of this inspection.	5 November 2021

Recommendations

- The registered person must review the location of the home to ensure that children are effectively safeguarded. The review should include the identification of any risks and opportunities presented by the home's location and strategies for managing these. (The guide to the Children's home regulations, 15.1, page 64)

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: 1234990

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: The Percy Hedley Foundation

Registered provider address: Percy Hedley School, Forest Hall, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE12 8YY

Responsible individual: Lisa Deane

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Catherine Heron, Social Care Inspector

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