

1247776

Registered provider: Keys Group Progressive Care & Education Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a private company and is registered to provide care for up to three children with autism spectrum disorder and/or learning disabilities. There were two children living in the home at the time of the visit.

An interim manager is in post and is applying to be registered with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 26 March 2024

Date of last inspection: 16 May 2023

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be 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.

One child has moved out of the home since the previous inspection. This was well planned and sensitive to their needs. The child was able to meet the people that they would be living with and had many visits to their new home. This ensured that moving was a positive experience for them and they settled into their new home well.

The staff now understand the statement of purpose. Staff have noticed that children have made good progress, particularly with their communication. The children now have access to a range of communication resources that support them to express themselves. In addition, the staff have attended relevant communication training to support this progress.

The children enjoy lots of activities both in and out of the home. The staff are now aware of the local offer which means that staff know where to look for any additional support or services that may be needed for the children.

There have been changes to the team since the previous inspection. However, staff say that the team is more stable now and that they work well together. Staff feel supported by the manager. However, agency staff are not receiving supervision. This is a missed opportunity for the manager to assure himself that they have the relevant skills and knowledge to support the children effectively.

One child has recently required a number of hospital visits following the onset of a medical condition. The manager has responded appropriately and worked with medical professionals to ensure that the staff have clear guidelines in place to follow. However, one staff member did not know the full details of these plans. This has not had an impact on the child.

The manager has worked hard to address staff practice with regards to medication errors and takes these seriously. Children now have individual medication cabinets to ensure the safe storage of medication. All staff have attended refresher training and the importance of following medication procedures has been discussed in individual supervisions. There have been two discrepancies since the last visit, these have been identified quickly and have been recording issues, both incidents have been thoroughly investigated.

The staff now follow the correct procedures if they are concerned about a child's safety. The manager responds appropriately and works with other professionals to ensure the children are safe.

The new manager has a good oversight of the staff and children, using robust and thorough processes. Any incidents are well evaluated and any issues with staff practice or any areas for learning are addressed quickly. The manager now actively seeks feedback to make continuous improvements.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/05/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
30/11/2022	Full	Good
05/01/2022	Full	Good
13/01/2020	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, 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 registered person must ensure that all employees— receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33 (4)(b)) This relates specifically to the manager ensuring that agency staff are supervised.	8 May 2024

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff have the relevant knowledge to be able to respond to the health needs of children and where necessary meet specific individual health needs arising from a disability, chronic condition or other complex needs. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 34, paragraph 7.12)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1247776

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Keys Group Progressive Care & Education Limited

Registered provider address: Maybrook House, Second Floor, Queensway,
Halesowen, Worcestershire B63 4AH

Responsible individual: Lisa McCloskey

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Kerri Lynch, Social Care Inspector

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