

1250039

Registered provider: The Place Young People's Company Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a private provider. It provides care for up to four children or young people who present with emotional, mental health and/or behavioural issues.

The manager has been registered since February 2022.

Inspection date: 21 March 2022

Date of last inspection: 25 May 2021

Judgement at last inspection: Requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: None

This inspection

The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection

This home was judged requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judged that it has sustained effectiveness.

Since the previous inspection, there have been mixed outcomes and variable experiences for children living in this home. Currently, children are benefiting from positive relationships with a stable staff group. They are experiencing well-structured care and good routines. This means that they are making progress in education and that their emotional well-being and care needs are being met. Professionals report that staff understand the children's needs, behaviours and histories.

However, one child has moved out of the home because the staff were unable to prevent them from going missing in the community. Managers had raised concerns about this with the placing local authority and with partner agencies. A range of safeguarding measures were put in place to try to protect the child. Managers recognise that they need to take learning from this child's experiences.

Two children who were living in the home at the time of the last inspection have now moved on. Managers and staff assessed that their needs could not be met in the home. They shared the relevant information with the placing authorities and partner agencies in a timely manner to inform plans for the children.

Since the previous inspection, the home's manager has registered with Ofsted. She is committed to bringing about improvements in staff practice and outcomes for children. Some training has been delivered to improve the quality of recording. However, records in respect of direct work with children do not consistently capture the child's views or the impact of this work.

Complaints and allegations processes require improvement. Information-sharing with the local authority designated officer for safeguarding is not yet consistent. Despite this shortfall, there has not been any impact on children's safety.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/05/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
21/01/2020	Full	Good
23/01/2019	Full	Good
20/02/2018	Interim	Declined in 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 within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— 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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(b)) In particular, staff and managers should use learning from the experiences of children living in the home to inform and improve staff practice, risk assessments and risk management plans.	2 May 2022
In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; and understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person. (Regulation 12 (2)(a)(iii)(v)) In particular, staff and managers require training in safe care and managing allegations against adults who work with children.	2 May 2022

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff are familiar with the home's policies on record keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective and clear recording. Staff should record information on individual children in a non-stigmatising way that distinguishes between fact, opinion and third-party information. Information about the child must always be recorded in a way that

will be helpful to the child. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

Information about this inspection

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, using the social care common inspection framework. This 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'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1250039

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: The Place Young People's Company Limited

Registered provider address: 2 Lymevale Court, Lyme Drive, Parklands, Stoke-On-Trent ST4 6NW

Responsible individual: Hilary Jones

Registered manager: Zoe Okon

Inspectors

Cathey Moriarty, Social Care Inspector

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