

1257739

Registered provider: Care 4 Children Residential Services Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home provides care for up to three children with social and emotional difficulties.

There is a registered manager in post who is due to leave in April 2022. She registered with Ofsted in 2018.

Inspection date: 23 March 2022

Date of last inspection: 7 December 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 declined in effectiveness.

Since the last inspection, one child was supported to move on. This was a positive move, and the planning was individualised to meet his needs. A new child had recently moved into the home. Although a compatibility assessment had been completed, this did not include all relevant information. This move caused significant difficulties and trauma for the other children who had been settled in the home.

There had been incidents of bullying between the children and significant damage throughout the home. Children who had previously had good relationships with each other had declined. Although staff have tried to minimise the times the boys spent together, incidents had continued to occur. Due to the crisis, an immediate decision had been made to move a child onwards.

Following the last inspection, the registered manager had spent time with staff in individual supervision sessions and team meetings. Discussions had taken place about roles and responsibilities, recording and improvements that were required to be made to paperwork and care practices in the home. This was welcomed by staff and had helped to improve practice in the home.

A further medication error had occurred. Immediate action was taken to ensure that the welfare of the child and all relevant professionals were notified. Following the incident, a refresher training session on medication was provided for staff. A new controlled drug book is in place and staff are clear on how to administer and record medication.

There have been improvements made to the home's monitoring and review systems, and records are now signed and dated by the author of the record. This has improved the analysis and evaluation of the care provided for children and supports managers to make improvements in the quality of care provided in the home.

Children's risk assessments and behaviour management plans have been reviewed and updated. Staff have had the opportunity to read these documents, including new starters. Staff demonstrate that they now consistently follow the plans in place. This ensures that the members of the staff team are consistent in their approach.

Measures of control and discipline are now evaluated for effectiveness. Records provide sufficient detail of the measure used and include the child's view. Although physical intervention has not been required, staff now understand the need to

complete documentation and comply with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015.

The registered manager has now had the opportunity to read the independent report conducted at the home. She demonstrated a good understanding into the failings in practice and had worked hard to identify further areas of improvement required. The home has now got a stable staff team, and all the hours that staff work, including the registered manager, are now recorded on the new rota system that has been introduced.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/12/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
09/09/2019	Full	Good
07/08/2018	Full	Good
20/02/2018	Full	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, 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 staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; 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)(a)(i)(v)(b))	30 April 2022
The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(f))	30 April 2022

The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children’s home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that children are admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home’s statement of purpose. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)) In particular, the registered manager must ensure that robust pre-admission risk assessments are completed which address all children’s known risks and needs, as well as staff skills in order to manage children’s individual needs.	30 April 2022
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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: 1257739

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Care 4 Children Residential Services Limited

Registered provider address: Care 4 Children, 1 Stuart Road, Bredbury Park Industrial Estate, Bredbury, Stockport SK6 2SR

Responsible individual: Karen Brougham

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Michelle Edge, Social Care Inspection Manager

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