

1271519

Registered provider: The Spring Children's and Transitional Care Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned children's home providing care for up to three children who have a range of additional complex needs.

The home does not have a registered manager.

Inspection date: 18 January 2022

This monitoring visit

On 1 December 2021, Ofsted carried out an interim inspection. The home was judged to have declined in effectiveness. In response to that visit, Ofsted issued a compliance notice under regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard).

On 18 January 2022, Ofsted undertook a monitoring visit to the home. The purpose of this monitoring visit was to review the provider's progress in meeting the compliance notice and the requirements raised at the interim inspection. The inspector found that the provider had not met the steps set out in the compliance notice. On 25 January 2022, Ofsted re-issued the compliance notice under regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard).

The registered manager resigned from post on 20 April 2021. A new manager has been appointed but has not yet started in post as safer recruitment checks have yet to be concluded.

Despite the manager's safer recruitment checks not yet being completed, the manager has started to undertake leadership responsibilities. For example, the manager has liaised with a child's social worker, is accessing and sharing documents about the child, and is providing staff with advice and guidance. It is unclear how it

has been assessed as appropriate for the manager to begin undertaking these tasks before the safe recruitment checks have been completed.

The responsible individual at the time of the visit has had oversight of the home in the absence of the manager and service manager. However, they have failed to provide the required scrutiny and oversight of the home. For example, physical intervention records show that staff who have been involved in the use of restraint have not had a debrief with a manager. Additionally, records of restraint are incomplete. This lack of monitoring by the responsible individual does not instil confidence in the oversight of the home.

Following this visit, the service manager has taken over the role of the responsible individual. At the time of the visit, this had not been finalised. In her role as service manager, she had overseen the amendments to the home's statement of purpose. This document contained errors relating to the geographical area where the home is found. This lack of attention to detail does not demonstrate effective oversight.

Staff now receive regular supervision sessions. However, two staff members have not yet received their annual appraisal. This is a missed opportunity for staff to receive important feedback about their practice and development.

Since the last inspection, some progress has been made. The manager has supplied a report to Ofsted about the quality of care, updated the home's location risk assessment and recruited two more staff. As no children have been admitted to the home since the last inspection, regulation 14 (the care planning standard) has not been considered and has been restated.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/12/2021	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
19/05/2021	Full	Good
14/11/2019	Full	Good
21/11/2018	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 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— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(h)) This specifically relates to ensuring that the registered person uses monitoring systems to improve the service and ensures that the home is managed to provide effective leadership. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	1 April 2022
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)) This specifically relates to the registered person considering staffing arrangements before children are admitted to the home. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	1 April 2022

The registered person must compile in relation to the children's home a statement ("the statement of purpose") which covers the matters listed in Schedule 1. The registered person must— keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16 (1) (3)(a)(b)) The statement of purpose should contain accurate information about the service. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	1 April 2022
The registered person must ensure that all employees— have their performance and fitness to perform their roles appraised at least once every year. (Regulation 33 (4)(c)) This specifically relates to staff having annual appraisals in line with the company's policy. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	1 April 2022
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. (Regulation 36 (1)(a)) This specifically relates to ensuring that any document relating to children's care, including records of incidents and physical interventions, are up to date and contain all accurate information. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	1 April 2022

*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

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: 1271519

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: The Spring Children's and Transitional Care Limited

Registered provider address: 9 Grenville Drive, Birmingham, Warwickshire B23 7YX

Responsible individual: Ann Henry

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Michelle Spruce, Social Care Inspector

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