

1271998

Registered provider: Care 4 Children Residential Services Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is owned by a private organisation. It is registered to provide care for up to three children.

The provider states in its statement of purpose that it provides care for children with social and emotional difficulties.

There is no registered manager in post.

Inspection date: 18 November 2021

This monitoring visit

This children's home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 6 and 7 October 2021. Further to the inspection, five compliance notices were issued under regulation 8, the education standard, regulation 9, the enjoyment and achievement standard, regulation 12, the protection of children standard, regulation 13, the leadership and management standard and regulation 14, the care planning standard.

During this visit, inspectors considered the action taken by the provider to meet the steps in the compliance notices.

The inspectors observed significant improvements in the children's appearance and social presentation. Children told inspectors that they were now having opportunities to try new activities and are taking part in a range of sports. Children said that they were not happy about the new rules in place. However, the manager and staff have completed work with the children to help them to understand why rules, such as no smoking in the home, are needed.

Leaders and managers have made changes to children's plans and records. All children now have plans in place for their education. Staff have communicated with virtual headteachers and placing authorities to find suitable educational placements for children. This has meant that progress has been made in children's education.

Children now have an activity planner that is individual and personal to their interests and talents. Children contribute to their plans. Children are developing their social skills as well as participating and achieving in hobbies that they enjoy.

Children's plans and risk assessments have been updated to ensure that they are individualised and identify each child's needs. Risk assessments include information about what actions staff should take if children are at risk. Leaders and managers have discussed children's risk assessments with the staff team. Furthermore, multidisciplinary meetings are taking place for staff to discuss risk management strategies. Staff spoken to demonstrate an understanding of children's risks and what action to take to reduce the risk of harm to children.

There is no registered manager at the home. The responsible individual is overseeing the management of the home. The responsible individual has implemented a revised monitoring and review system to improve the quality of care. Staff told inspectors that these changes are positive. One child's social worker told the inspector: 'It feels positive, and we are all working towards the same goal.' Staff are working effectively with key agencies.

Since the full inspection, staff have attended regular team meetings. The meetings have provided an opportunity for staff to discuss children's risk assessments and policies and procedures, including safeguarding. This ensures that all staff are aware of children's needs and how to respond when risks occur.

Leaders and managers have completed a review of all staff skills. This review addresses gaps in staff knowledge and skills. Leaders and managers have requested specific training for staff. This will ensure that all staff have the skills to meet children's individual needs.

Leaders and managers have taken action to ensure that a robust impact risk assessment process is in place. This assessment includes the needs of the child moving into the home, their compatibility with the children already living at the home and the skill base of the staff team. This will ensure that only children who the provider can safely support will be considered prior to their arrival at the home.

The provider has taken sufficient action to meet the compliance notices. The additional requirements will be reviewed at the next inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/10/2021	Full	Inadequate
15/10/2019	Full	Good
17/10/2018	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 children's views, wishes and feelings standard is that children receive care from staff who— develop positive relationships with them; engage with them; and take their views, wishes and feelings into account in relation to matters affecting the children's care and welfare and their lives. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure that staff— help each child to express views, wishes and feelings. (Regulation 7 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(ii))	5 December 2021
The health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met; children receive advice, services and support in relation to their health and well-being; and children are helped to lead healthy lifestyles. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that each child has access to such dental, medical, nursing, psychiatric and psychological advice, treatment and other services as the child may require. (Regulation 10 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(c))	5 December 2021

The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. The registered person may only— employ an individual to work at the children's home; or if an individual is employed by a person other than the registered person to work at the home in a position in which the individual may have regular contact with children, allow that individual to work at the home, if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3). The requirements are that— full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. (Regulation 32 (1) (2)(a)(b) (3)(d))	5 December 2021
The registered person must— ensure that each employee completes an appropriate induction. The registered person must ensure that all employees— receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33(1)(a) (4)(b))	5 December 2021
The registered person must prepare and implement a policy ('the behaviour management policy') which sets out— how appropriate behaviour is to be promoted in the children's home; and the measures of control, discipline and restraint which may be used in relation to children in the home. The registered person must keep the behaviour management policy under review and, where appropriate, revise it. (Regulation 35 (1)(a)(b) (2))	5 December 2021

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))	5 December 2021
The registered person must maintain in the home the records in Schedule 4. (Regulation 37 (1) (2)(a)) The provider should demonstrate all hours that all staff have worked on rotas, including managers.	5 December 2021
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; or there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(c)(e))	5 December 2021

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: 1271998

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: Lisa Baxter

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Jessica Higginson, Social Care Inspector

Catherine Fargin, Social Care Inspector

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