

1277049

Registered provider: All Round Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is run by a private provider. It is registered to care for two children who may experience social or emotional difficulties.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since November 2019.

Inspection dates: 12 and 13 April 2022

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 16 November 2021

Overall judgement at last inspection: inadequate

Enforcement action since last inspection:

Following the full inspection on 16 November 2021, the home was judged as inadequate. Two compliance notices were issued, in relation to regulation 12, the protection of children standard, and regulation 13, the leadership and management standard. At a monitoring visit on 17 December 2021, the provider demonstrated that they had taken appropriate action to meet the steps of the compliance notices.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/11/2021	Full	Inadequate
05/12/2019	Full	Good
27/02/2019	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children are cared for by a small and stable staff team. A child said, 'The best thing about the home is that staff are kind and the house is nice.' Children feel listened to about what they need.

Children are supported well to attend school and to do their best. The staff work closely with education professionals to make sure that children receive the consistent support that they need.

The staff understand how to respond to children's health needs, including any allergies that they may have. They encourage children to eat healthily and take exercise to improve their overall well-being.

The staff support children with their identity needs. They ensure that children are referred to specialist services for support.

The manager and staff work closely with other professionals to overcome any barriers when working with children's families. They provide practical help to families and make sure that children spend time with family members and friends.

The manager consults with social workers as part of the plan for children moving to the home on a short-term basis. A transition plan was not completed for a child who moved from this home to another of the provider's homes. However, a meeting was held with the staff from the new home to support their understanding of the child's needs.

Some placing authority plans are not held on children's files. Children's plans do not always demonstrate their needs effectively to show the work that the staff do to support them, or to measure progress clearly. They are not written in a child-friendly way to encourage children's involvement and understanding of their experiences of living in the home. Children's records are not always signed by the staff to show that they have read and understood them.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: good

Children living in the home say that they feel safe. The staff have a good understanding of children's risks and vulnerabilities. They understand their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe.

Risk assessment and management plans provide the staff with clear strategies to follow. This enables the staff to respond promptly to ensure that children get the help that they need. However, follow-up after incidents is not always recorded to clearly demonstrate the actions taken by the staff to ensure issues are addressed.

The staff take swift action to seek emergency help for children who try to harm themselves. They make sure that children are assessed by specialists and seek ongoing support from the child and adolescent mental health services to reduce risk.

Children respond to rules and boundaries that are in place to keep them safe. As a result, the staff rarely use sanctions to manage children's behaviour. The staff use direct work with children to discuss arising issues and provide guidance to help children think about how to improve their behaviour.

The manager follows appropriate procedures to manage any allegations made by children. He liaises with the local authority designated officer and children's social workers as part of investigations. However, actions taken to follow up allegations are not always documented in a central record to aid clear understanding of what has been done.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager demonstrates a positive approach to learning from the last inspection and in driving improvements to practice in the home. The staff say that they feel supported to perform well in their roles.

The staff either hold, or are enrolled on, a suitable children's residential care qualification. They have received additional training so that they understand the model of care used in the home. The manager ensures that they have access to specialist training to support children's individual needs.

The staff are supported to develop their practice through regular reflective supervision. Staff appraisals take place annually, however, the process does not include the opinions of children or professionals. The workforce development plan does not include all the required information, for example, performance management procedures. The staff rota does not use full names to identify who is working in the home. However, these shortfalls do not have a negative effect on children's care.

The home's location review does not include strategies to mitigate risks in the local area. The manager and staff are not aware of the local offer, setting out the support available for children with special education needs or disabilities. This is a missed opportunity to access additional resources for children.

The manager has good oversight of children's progress. Social workers now receive weekly progress reports.

External independent monitoring has improved but does not consistently provide analysis or recommend actions to improve practice in the home.

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 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— manage and review the placement of each child in the home; and plan for, and help, each child to prepare to leave the home or to move into adult care in a way that is consistent with arrangements agreed with the child's placing authority; that each child's relevant plans are followed. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(ii)(iii)(c)) In particular, the home's location should be considered when planning for children moving to the home. Children's plans should clearly outline how children's needs will be supported, including their identity needs. Clear transition plans should be recorded for when children leave the home.	12 June 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; are kept up to date; and are signed and dated by the author of each entry. (Regulation 36 (1)(a)(b)(c))	12 June 2022

Specifically, children's local authority plans should be retained on their records. Children's records should be signed by all staff. The full names of staff caring for children should be recorded on the rota.	
The independent person must produce a report about a visit ("the independent person's report") which sets out, in particular, the independent person's opinion as to whether— children are effectively safeguarded; and the conduct of the home promotes children's well-being. (Regulation 44 (4)(a)(b)) In particular, the independent person should provide a rigorous review and analysis of care provided in the home to identify any shortfalls. The report should assist the manager's understanding of practice in the home to drive forward improvements.	12 June 2022

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the review of the home's location includes clear strategies to mitigate any risks identified in the local area and they should consider the local authority's offer for children with special educational needs or disabilities. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 64, paragraph 15.1)
- The registered person should ensure that the workforce development plan is regularly reviewed and updated to include the information required. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 53, paragraph 10.8)
- The registered person should ensure that staff appraisals take into account the views of children and other professionals. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.5)
- The registered person should ensure that the staff update children's records with details about further action they have taken to support outcomes. Children's records should be written in a child-friendly way to support their understanding of how staff help them to achieve. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

Information about this 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: 1277049

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: All Round Care Limited

Responsible individual: Paul Seddon

Registered manager: Aaron Hill

Inspectors

Karen Willson, Social Care Inspector

Mark Woodbridge, Social Care Inspector

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