

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 applied to register with Ofsted.

Two children were living in the home at the time of the inspection.

Inspection dates: 27 and 28 February 2024

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	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 12 April 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/04/2022	Full	Good
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

The children living in the home are settled, happy and making good progress. Children have been involved in choosing the decor for recent renovation work in the home. A new dining room allows for family-style meals, which creates a more homely feel. Children said they like living at the home.

Children are cared for by a staff team who know them well. This supports children to build positive, trusting relationships with the adults who care for them. Staff are committed to supporting the children and create a positive and calming environment for them.

Children are encouraged to make choices that support improved health. Staff are proactive in addressing any health issues as they arise. Managers seek out specialist support services to improve children's health and well-being.

Children attend education and are making progress. Staff maintain regular communication with education professionals and share pertinent information. This makes overcoming barriers to education a shared priority. One education professional said, 'I really feel we are all working together to get the best for [name of child].'

Staff respect children's relationships with family and friends. They support children to develop and maintain relationships with those who are important to them. Staff support children to safely spend time with family and friends.

Staff consult children regularly. Children have opportunities to try new experiences and hobbies. Staff praise children and celebrate the progress they make, and show the children that they are proud of them.

Staff encourage the children to carry out daily tasks independently, in line with their individual care plans, such as budgeting, cooking, shopping and using public transport. This helps to prepare children for adult life.

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

The manager and staff know the children's risks. They work collaboratively with external professionals to appropriately assess risk. The manager ensures that there are risk assessment plans in place for each child. The social worker for one child said staff are 'actively working to keep him safe'.

Staff support children through engaging them in meaningful direct work. They treat children with dignity and respect. Staff address children's risks and vulnerabilities and support them to make more positive choices. Staff regularly revisit this work and engage specialist services; as a result, some risks have reduced.

Managers do not consistently report serious incidents to Ofsted or do so within the required timescale. This means the regulator has no initial oversight of what action staff take to keep children safe.

Staff understand risks posed by the internet and put boundaries in place to protect children.

The systems in place to store and manage medication are safe and effective. The administration records are comprehensive and all staff are suitably trained to administer medication.

The manager ensures that safer recruitment practices are implemented when considering employing new staff to work at the home. This means that only the most suitable staff work at the home and that it is a safe place for children to live.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: requires improvement to be good

The home has been without a registered manager since April 2023. An interim manager was in post, overseeing this home and another, but did not submit an application to register. Another manager started in January 2024 and has submitted an application to register. She has high aspirations for the children and staff team. She is child-centred and knows the children well.

Effective monitoring, evaluation and oversight are not yet embedded, specifically relating to the learning that can be taken following incidents. The manager has started this process. She has identified staff's strengths and areas for development to help them to improve the quality of care.

Staff say that they feel supported and that they 'love' working in the home. They attend regular supervision meetings to reflect on their practice. Staff also receive annual appraisals. However, appraisals do not include the views of the children or key individuals. This limits their effectiveness.

Staff attend a range of training to develop their knowledge and skills, although some staff have not had training related to supporting children's individual needs. This could impact the effectiveness of understanding and responding to children's needs.

The manager is confident and proactive in her approach to challenge. She escalates any concerns that she has with other professionals involved in the care of children. One professional said, 'She advocates for him, always pushing and wanting the best.'

There is a workforce development plan in place, with a clear action plan. However, it does not include all the required information, for example, performance management procedures.

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 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— ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(h)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that all staff have access to training that relates to the needs of the children. Also, ensure that significant incidents are evaluated with scrutiny, taking into consideration any possible learning.	19 April 2024
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation; an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious; there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there;	19 April 2024

a child protection enquiry involving a child —

is instigated; or

concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or

there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious.
(Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))

Recommendations

- 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 external professionals. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.5)

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

Registered provider address: 6 Renwick Square, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan
WN4 9NF

Responsible individual: Paul Seddon

Registered manager: post vacant

Inspector

Cathy Trengove, Social Care Inspector

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