

2483881

Registered provider: Ivie Lodge Ltd

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run children's home provides care for up to four children and young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

There is currently no registered manager.

Inspection date: 25 January 2022

This monitoring visit

Following an unannounced visit on 13 December 2021, the home's registration was suspended. There were significant concerns about the home conditions, the experience and skills of the staff team, how well challenging situations are managed, and the steps taken to de-escalate situations before they become challenging. The inspection also found shortfalls in staff recording. Management oversight of the day-to-day care provided and support for staff was deemed to be ineffective.

This monitoring visit was carried out to monitor compliance with the suspension notice.

Although windows have been repaired and some plastering work has been undertaken, the home remains unsuitable for children to live in. There is still evidence of damage, and some areas still pose a health and safety risk to children. There are aspects of the home that remain unwelcoming. For example, the car windscreen remains damaged in the driveway, and there is graffiti in the home. The responsible individual acknowledges that the home is not up to an acceptable standard and is in the process of repairing and redecorating the whole house.

There is a staff team in place. However, as there are no children living in the home, staff have been re-distributed to work in different children's homes owned by the

parent company. The responsible individual intends to refresh staff training and induct new staff in February 2022.

There is a manager for this home, but Ofsted has not received an application for registration. The manager is currently working at a different children's home while the house is being renovated. The manager was not present for this monitoring visit.

Steps are being taken to improve the physical environment. It is not clear what measures are being put in place to ensure that the home and quality of care is maintained going forward.

At this time, the home is not ready to accommodate children and the suspension notice will remain.

The requirements set at the inspection in October 2021, and the further requirements set at the last visit, remain in place.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
19/10/2021	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
24/05/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
18/06/2019	Full	Good
19/02/2019	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 registered person must— maintain in the home the records in Schedule 4; ensure that the records are kept up to date; and retain the records for at least 15 years from the date of the last entry. (Regulation 37 (2)(a)(b)(c)) This specifically relates to ensuring that details of all children placed in and discharged from the home are recorded and records kept. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	8 March 2022
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 of purpose within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16 (3)(a)(b)) This relates to notifying Ofsted of any changes in staffing. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	8 March 2022
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	8 March 2022

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— the individual is of integrity and good character; the individual has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills for the work that the individual is to perform; and 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)(a)(b)(d)) This particularly refers to ensuring that full and satisfactory information is sought in relation to any agency staff used. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
In meeting the quality standards, the registered person must, and must ensure that staff— if the registered person considers, or staff consider, a placing authority's performance or response to be inadequate in relation to their role, challenge the placing authority or the relevant person to seek to ensure that each child's needs are met in accordance with the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 5 (c)) This relates to the need to ensure pathway plans for relevant children are in place. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	8 March 2022
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—	8 March 2022

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; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child’s welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home’s child protection policies. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(v)(vi)(vii)) This specifically relates to maintaining safe home conditions and following procedures that relate to the safe care of children. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
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; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; 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;	8 March 2022

demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on—

feedback on the experiences of children, including complaints received; and

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)(c)(f)(g)(ii)(h))

This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.

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: 2483881

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Ivie Lodge Ltd

Registered provider address: 2nd Floor, 9 Portland Street, Manchester M1 3BE

Responsible individual: Danielle Betts

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Andi Lilley-Tams, Social Care Inspector

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