

2501791

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home is registered to provide care for up to three children with social, emotional and mental health difficulties and mild to moderate learning disabilities. At the time of the inspection, one child was living in the home.

Since the last inspection, the manager has left the organisation. A new manager has been appointed and was due to start in May 2024.

Inspection date: 24 April 2024

This monitoring visit

Since the last inspection, one child has left the home. This child was experiencing many changes in their circumstances and the staff were unable to support them to be safe. The responsible individual ensured that the child's independent reviewing officer was available to support the child's move, which was managed as sensitively as possible.

Following the child's move, the staff came together to review what had gone well and what learning there had been from the child's time in the home. This helped them reflect on lessons they had learned and how this could inform their practice.

One child has remained living at the home. This child is making excellent progress, has built lovely relationships with the staff and is very settled. They said, 'I feel safe here. It is a million out of 10 and the best home I have ever lived in.'

The responsible individual has reviewed care planning records to ensure these reflect the child's views, wishes and goals and are not contradictory. Additionally, plans have been reviewed and updated in response to any changes in the child's care and support. Staff are guided effectively by these plans on how to support the child.

The staff have reflected with the home's clinician on the impact and effectiveness of using appropriate boundaries and consequences to support children positively and ensure they are provided with consistent care.

One child who had been out of education for some time before moving into the home is now engaged in tutoring and making progress. Furthermore, this child has been supported to make a complaint, at their request, to the local authority regarding the lack of school provision and efforts to arrange this. The responsible individual also requested an advocate for the child to ensure their voice is heard.

Since the last inspection, agency staff have not worked in the home. However, the registered provider has reviewed processes to ensure safer recruitment checks are in place and that shifts worked by any agency staff are reflected on the home's rotas.

Training has been carried out with the staff to refresh them on their safeguarding responsibilities, as well as the provider's therapeutic model and approach. The training gives examples of how staff can embed the model of care in their practice and take effective action to ensure children are safe. The staff feel supported by senior leaders and the changes made since the last inspection to promote their development.

The responsible individual has met with the local policing team as part of their review to build on working partnerships. This followed the police response to a child who recently moved on from the home and during their time there was frequently missing from home. This highlights the registered provider's efforts to reflect on learning from this child's placement and improve their practice.

Improvements have been made to the environment, in consultation with the child. This has included redecorating, buying new furniture and making improvements to the gardens. The staff regularly support the child to keep their bedroom tidy and there is effective management oversight to ensure the home is maintained to a good standard.

The registered provider has reflected on the shortfalls found at the last full inspection and reviewed processes, to learn from these shortfalls. For example, they now ensure the oversight of management investigations and allegation processes is in line with the provider's policies and procedures as well as the relevant regulations.

Since the last inspection, the newly appointed manager has left and another manager has been appointed. During this interim period, the responsible individual has provided effective leadership and oversight of the home. This has included regular monitoring and review of the quality of care for the child.

A comprehensive internal investigation has been carried out following a safeguarding concern and all necessary action has been taken by the registered provider.

The home's statement of purpose has been updated and sent to the regulator as per requirements.

The child and their social worker have given consent for the independent person to review records and use this to inform the reviews.

The requirements made at the last inspection have been met.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
27/02/2024	Full	Inadequate
14/06/2022	Full	Good
09/06/2021	Full	Good

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: 2501791

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Registered provider address: Esland Ltd, Suite 1 & 5 , Riverside Business Centre, Foundry Lane, Milford, Belper DE56 0RN

Responsible individual: Lucy Knox

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Sara Stoker, Social Care Inspector

Jacob Robson, Social Care Inspector

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