

2503143

Solace Care Partners Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run children's home provides care and accommodation for up to four young people. The home's statement of purpose states that the home cares for young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The provider runs another children's home, which is located next door.

The home and the registered manager were registered by Ofsted in October 2019.

Inspection date: 25 January 2021

This monitoring visit

Ofsted conducted this monitoring visit after receiving a notification from the home of a serious safeguarding incident involving a young person. This visit concentrated on the young person and their progress.

This visit was conducted off site/virtually and was Ofsted's first visit to the service.

One young person currently lives in the home. It was not possible to speak to her as she was in hospital during the visit. The young person completed an online written response to the inspector regarding her views about living in the home. The inspector interviewed the registered manager, gained feedback from an independent reviewing officer and reviewed documents.

The home has worked effectively to safeguard the young person following the serious safeguarding incident. All potential hazards were removed from the home and staffing levels increased to ensure the young person receives close supervision.

An independent reviewing officer commented on the positive relationships the young person enjoys with staff in the home. She said, 'She [the young person] loves it there.' In addition, the young person stated that she was happy in the home and had managed to form positive relationships with staff. Despite this, professionals

noted that the home is unable to meet the complex needs of the young person in the longer term.

The risk assessment of the young person is up to date and gives clear guidance to staff regarding appropriate behaviour management strategies. However, the assessment fails to record or evaluate the young person's wishes and feelings.

The home's response regarding young people going missing from the home is mixed. The young person concerned has not received an independent return home interview despite going missing on eight occasions. This limits support at a vulnerable time for young people.

Young people benefit from easy access to independent advocacy. An independent advocate supported the young person to oppose a plan to move her to a less supported setting prior to the incident. The advocate continues to support and advise the young person regarding the pending move from the home.

The home has managed the challenge of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic well. Rigorous safety procedures, including the regular taking of temperature, are understood and respected by staff and young people. No young people have tested positive while resident in the home.

Staff said that team morale is strong. The registered manager is supported by an experienced deputy manager and a senior worker. Staff reported that they receive good levels of supervision and support.

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 positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and understanding. (Regulation 11 (1)(a) (2)(a)(iii)) Specifically, the home should ensure that young people contribute to the development of their own risk management and behaviour support plans.	1 April 2021

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that when a child returns to the home after being missing from care or away from the home without permission, the responsible local authority must provide an opportunity for the child to have an independent return home interview. Homes should take account of information provided by such interviews when assessing risks and putting arrangements in place to protect each child. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 45, paragraph 9.30)

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: 2503143

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Solace Care Partners Limited

Registered provider address: Unit 2A, 420 Eastern Avenue, Ilford IG2 6NQ

Responsible individual: Umer Ahmed

Registered manager: Olabode Martins-Yedenu

Inspector

Barnaby Dowell, Social Care Inspector

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