

2510324

Registered provider: Leeward Care Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home provides care for up to four children with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

The home was registered with Ofsted on 13 March 2019 and the registered manager has been registered with Ofsted since 13 March 2019.

Inspection dates: 15 to 16 October 2019

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
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: this is the home's first inspection

Overall judgement at last inspection: not applicable

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 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– use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13(1)(a)(b), (2)(h))	31/12/2019
The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. In particular the registered person must ensure that– medicine which is prescribed for a child is administered as prescribed to the child for whom it is prescribed and to no other child. (Regulation 23(1), (2)(b))	31/10/2019
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 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,	31/12/2019

if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3). The requirements are that– 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)(d))	
The registered person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children (“a quality of care review”) at least once every 6 months. In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating– the quality of care provided for children; the feedback and opinions of children about the children’s home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided for children. After completing a quality of care review, the registered person must produce a written report about the quality of care review and the actions which the registered person intends to take as a result of the quality of care review (“the quality of care review report”). The registered person must– supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality of care review is completed; and make a copy of the quality of care review report available on request to a placing authority, if the placing authority is not the parent of a child accommodated in the home. The system referred to in paragraph (2) must provide for ascertaining and considering the opinions of children, their parents, placing authorities and staff. (Regulation 45(1), (2)(a)(b)(c), (3), (4)(a)(b), (5))	30/11/2019

Recommendations

- The Statement of Purpose is of particular importance to this Standard (regulation 6(2)(a) and (b)(i)). Homes are required to develop and keep under review a "Statement of Purpose" (regulation 16 and schedule 1). The home's Statement of Purpose should be child-focused, indicating how the home provides individualised care to meet the Quality Standards for the children in their care. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations, including the quality standards', page 14, paragraph 3.5)

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children have formed strong relationships with staff, who provide effective and individualised nurturing care. Staff treat children with dignity and respect, and children have made good progress with their emotional security. Children told the inspector that they value their relationships with the staff.

The house is homely and well maintained. It is a pleasant environment, and a lot of work is completed with the children during the admission process to ensure that bedrooms are personalised to reflect their wishes.

Children are provided with access to a range of fulfilling activities, such as horse riding, cycling and musical instrument tuition. Staff are willing to go the extra mile to offer enriching life experiences through activities. The home has recently purchased four chickens, with one of the children taking a particular interest in looking after them. This responsibility helps to build on children's confidence and self-esteem.

Staff know the children well. They are able to talk at length about any matters that are occurring in the children's lives. Staff speak with genuine passion about caring for the children in placement and the progress that they have made.

All children regularly attend school. The staff support education well and advocate on behalf of the children when challenges in education arise.

The children's independence is promoted and supported effectively. For one child, this has meant that they now use public transport to get to school and to attend a local LGBTQ+ youth group independently. This has enabled the child to develop their sense of identity and widen their social networks.

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

Physical intervention is used only in extreme circumstances. The records of physical intervention are clear and contain all the necessary information. All staff are trained in the home's preferred method of behaviour management. Sanctions are recorded appropriately and reviewed by managers. The view of the child is recorded in records following incidents.

The physical environment is safe and well maintained. Recommendations from external risk assessments have been addressed in a timely manner and the home's internal health and safety monitoring is effective.

Medication practice lacks thorough monitoring and review processes. Records show that one child is routinely given paracetamol at a dose above the recommended dose for their age. This information is clearly stated on the medication box. It is noted that a general practitioner had previously prescribed this dose of medication, however this was over a

year ago. The medication is no longer received by prescription and the dose has not been reviewed. This has, to date, not led to the child being harmed.

Staff are very clear on their roles and responsibilities for keeping children safe. They are knowledgeable about safeguarding and what to do when concerns are raised and how to raise concerns themselves.

Children do not regularly go missing from the home. However, clear protocols are in place to guide staff on what to do when a child does go missing. The home has formed a positive working relationship with the local police to help support these protocols.

Detailed plans are in place to assess risk and to guide staff on how to keep individual children safe. Children benefit from a consistent approach to how they are supported by staff.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: requires improvement

The home's quality of care review has not been completed or submitted to Ofsted within the required timescales. Also, the statement of purpose was updated in August 2019 but not sent to Ofsted. There has been a lack of appropriate monitoring and review by leaders and managers. This means that avoidable shortfalls have not been identified.

Safer recruitment principles have not been consistently followed. For one member of staff, the Schedule 2 information was not complete. The recruitment process did not explore the reasons why a member of staff had left all previous roles that had involved working with children.

Leaders and managers speak passionately about the children placed at the home and can talk in depth and detail about the progress that each individual has made. They have an ambitious vision for the outcomes for all children in placement.

Staff spoken to explained to the inspector that they are well supported by leaders and managers. They have appropriate supervision and can access managers and request additional supervision sessions at any time. Staff access training appropriate to the needs of the children in placement and are supported to develop their skills through further training.

Leaders and managers actively challenge other professionals when their response has not been deemed appropriate. The registered manager has chased up funding for additional support for a child, which has now been agreed.

There have been improvements in the recording and evidencing of information. This was something that the independent visitor had commented on in previous visits, and the home has acted upon these recommendations.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the differences made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and young people and their families. In addition, the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people whom it is trying to help, protect and look after.

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: 2510324

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Leeward Care Ltd

Registered provider address: 1 Langley Court, Pyle Street, Newport, Isle of Wight
PO30 1LA

Responsible individual: Guy Ashton

Registered manager: Sharon Ashton

Inspector

Daniel Healy, social care inspector

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