

2513339

Central Bedfordshire Council

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This local authority children's home provides care and accommodation for up to five children who present with challenging and complex behaviour. The manager was registered with Ofsted in January 2019.

Inspection date: 11 June 2019

This monitoring visit

This monitoring inspection was carried out to monitor the progress that the provider has made towards meeting the compliance notice that was served on 24 May 2019 following the full inspection. The provider has addressed the shortfalls that were identified at the full inspection and the compliance notice is met.

There have been no further admissions to the home. One child has been discharged from the home because the staff were unable to keep the child safe or meet their needs.

The environment is calmer and provides a stable home. There have been no behavioural incidents, nor has there been any damage to the house. The previous restrictions to access in some areas of the home are no longer in place. Work has begun to improve the interior decor and generate a homely and welcoming atmosphere.

The children have not gone missing from the home and there have been no further incidents in the local community. The children said that they feel happier. The staff encourage children to return at times that are appropriate to their ages and levels of vulnerability. This provides the children with clear expectations and boundaries.

The children's individual risk assessments and behaviour management plans guide staff in how to manage incidents. These documents identify triggers and suggest resources to improve the children's resilience. The actions identified help children to

make positive choices in situations that may have a negative effect on them. These consistent boundaries help the children to feel safe.

A new training programme supports the staff to manage the children's behaviour. This programme includes autism awareness, and trauma and loss training. Informative training helps the staff to understand and meet children's individual needs.

The management team has reflected on practice following Ofsted's identification of shortfalls at the full inspection. Lessons learned have resulted in clearer procedures. The management structure has now been defined for the staff. The staff are aware of the process to follow if they have any concerns. The staff feel supported in their roles. This helps the staff to develop the resilience that they need to care for children in challenging situations.

The staff are implementing a daily routine more effectively. Children are regularly engaging in key-work sessions, starting to develop their independence skills and engaging in education. This provides children with a structure and purpose each day.

The remaining requirements that were raised at the last full inspection have not been reviewed and will be restated. The provider's progress in meeting the requirements will be evaluated at the next inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/05/2019	Full	Inadequate

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 quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child; and enable each child to participate in the daily life of the home. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b)(2)(c)(i)(ii))	28/06/2019
The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans; help a child who is excluded from school, or who is of compulsory school age but not attending school, to access educational and training support throughout the period of exclusion or non-attendance and to return to school as soon as possible. (Regulation 8 (1)(2)(a)(i)(viii))	28/06/2019
The positive relationships standard is that children are helped	28/06/2019

to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust; an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and positive responses to other children and adults. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— understand how children’s previous experiences and present emotions can be communicated through behaviour, and have the competence and skills to interpret these and develop positive relationships with children; de-escalate confrontations with or between children, or potentially violent behaviour by children. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c)(2)(a)(ix)(xi))	
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— that the premises used for the purposes of the home are located so that children are effectively safeguarded. (Regulation 12 (1)(2)(c))	28/06/2019
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;	28/06/2019

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. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b)(2)(a)(c)(f))	
No measure of control or discipline which is excessive, unreasonable or contrary to paragraph (2) may be used in relation to any child. The following measures may not be used to discipline any child— any restriction, other than one imposed by a court or in accordance with regulation 22 (contact and access to communications), on— a child's contact with parents, relatives or friends. (Regulation 19 (1)(2)(c)(i))	28/06/2019
The independent person must provide a copy of the independent person's report to— HMCI. (Regulation 44 (7)(a)) In particular, send the independent person's report to Ofsted without delay.	28/06/2019

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: 2513339

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Central Bedfordshire Council

Registered provider address: Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford,
Central Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ

Responsible individual: Kenneth Harvey

Registered manager: Amy Clark

Inspector

Natalie Burton, social care inspector

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