

2548571

Worcestershire Children First

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home was previously owned by the local authority. It was re-registered in October 2019 when the local authority moved to be a holding company. It is registered for up to four children who have learning disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder.

The manager registered with Ofsted in October 2019 and is working towards a level 5 diploma in leadership and management.

Inspection date: 19 November 2020

This monitoring visit

Ofsted carried out this monitoring visit remotely. The inspector gathered evidence by talking to the registered manager and by reviewing electronic documents.

Ofsted inspected the home on 22 and 23 September 2020 and found serious and widespread concerns in how staff were safely recruited and how they followed safeguarding procedures. As a result, Ofsted took the decision to issue a compliance notice under regulation 32, fitness of workers.

This monitoring visit was carried out to review the progress that had been made in addressing these concerns.

The registered manager has now carried out a full audit of all the staff files. This review has enabled the registered manager to rectify shortfalls in how staff have been recruited. This has now demonstrated that staff who are intending to work at the home are subject to procedures that ensure that they are suitable to work with children. As a result, the compliance notice is now met.

The registered manager has also received further training and has liaised with other professionals to enhance her knowledge of child protection procedures. This has

enabled her to have a greater insight into the processes that she must follow to ensure that children are protected from harm.

All remaining requirements raised at the last inspection will be considered at a future inspection.

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))	29 October 2020
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home. (Regulation 14 (1)(a))	29 October 2020
The registered person must ensure that— within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes— the name of the child; details of the child's behaviour leading to the use of the measure; the date, time and location of the use of the measure; a description of the measure and its duration;	29 October 2020

details of any methods used or steps taken to avoid the need to use the measure; the name of the person who used the measure ("the user"), and of any other person present when the measure was used; the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; and a description of any injury to the child or any other person, and any medical treatment administered, as a result of the measure; within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person")— has spoken to the user about the measure; and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii)(b)(i)(ii)(c)) This is specifically regarding sanctions given to children.	
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 feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it. (Regulation 45 (1) (2)((b))	29 October 2020

Recommendations

- Staff should be familiar with the home's policies on record keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective, and clear recording. Staff should record information on individual children in a non-stigmatising way that distinguishes between fact, opinion and third-party information. Information about the child must always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

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: 2548571

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Worcestershire Children First

Registered provider address: County Hall Campus, Spetchley Road, Worcester, Worcestershire WR5 2NP

Responsible individual: Adam Johnston

Registered manager: Nina Kersho

Inspector

Louise Battersby, social care inspector

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