

2548794

Registered provider: Seva Childcare Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately run and provides care for up to five children with autism spectrum disorder and/or learning difficulties.

There were two children living at the home at the time of this inspection.

The home registered with Ofsted in July 2020. The manager registered with Ofsted in May 2023.

Inspection dates: 15 and 16 May 2023

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

Date of last inspection: 29 June 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
29/06/2022	Full	Good
10/01/2022	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
07/06/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The quality of care provided to the children continues to improve. Leaders and managers have addressed the concerns raised at the last monitoring visit. They work closely with children's professional networks to provide individualised care and support.

Children now enjoy positive and trusting relationships with staff. Staff use appropriate methods of communication, such as visual aids and short stories that describe social situations, to help children to express their views and feelings. However, there is no evidence that children are involved in updating their records and their views are not always documented. This reduces understanding of children's wishes and views.

Staff recognise the value of children maintaining family relationships. Children are sensitively supported to spend time with their families and others who are important to them. The manager and staff support children and families to overcome any difficulties in their relationships.

Children enjoy a range of activities that are specific to their interests and talents. They benefit from good routines and structure and have good opportunities for new experiences in the home and in the community.

Children engage in education and make good progress. Staff support children to attend school, and they work closely with teachers to provide additional support when needed. One child, who had not been in school for two years before moving into the home, now attends full-time education and is making good academic progress.

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

There have been two monitoring visits since the last full inspection. These followed serious allegations being made against members of staff. Investigations have now concluded, and the staff concerned no longer work in the home.

Safeguarding practice has improved since the last inspection. New leaders and managers work in line with children's plans and make safe decisions about the care provided. Placing authorities and the local authority designated officer give positive feedback about children's safety.

Staff have a good understanding of whistle-blowing policies and safeguarding procedures. Allegations or suspicion of harm are dealt with immediately and notified to the relevant agencies. This increases children's safety in the home.

Known and potential risks to the children are well understood by managers and

staff. Risk assessments are clear and detailed. They are informed by the children's professional networks and help staff to take the appropriate action when required. However, one child's risk assessment included incorrect details of another child.

Behaviour management strategies are effective. Staff recognise when children are becoming unsettled, and they use alternative strategies to support them well. This helps to reduce the severity of incidents and has reduced the need for physical intervention. This has created a more positive environment for children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Leaders and managers now work proactively with other agencies and families. They take on board feedback from stakeholders and respond quickly when required. Feedback from placing social workers and parents is positive, which provides further evidence that children now receive well-rounded and consistent care.

Leaders and managers have high aspirations for children. They advocate for children and challenge placing authorities when their plans do not meet their needs. This ensures that children receive individualised care and support.

Staff now receive relevant safeguarding training in line with the home's policies. They also receive training that is specific to the needs of the children in their care. However, there have been occasions when children have been cared for by staff who are not suitably trained in restraint practice. This potentially placed children and staff at risk. In addition, some new members of staff have not completed all their mandatory training and their induction programme is not always monitored.

Staff receive regular and effective supervision which focuses on children's needs, experiences and plans. Safeguarding issues and staff development needs are discussed. This demonstrates effective management oversight of staff practice and development and supports the progress children are making.

Leaders and managers have failed to follow all the recommendations from a fire risk assessment.

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 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 staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; help each child to understand how to keep safe; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(d)) In particular, leaders and managers must ensure that children's risk assessments include information about all known risks. Leaders and managers must ensure that actions from the health and safety checks of the home are carried out promptly, such as repair of the fire doors, to keep the home environment safe for children.	28 July 2023
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.	28 July 2023

In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—

ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child;

use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(h))

In particular, leaders and managers must monitor staff's induction progress and ensure that they are suitably trained. They must ensure that there are effective monitoring systems in place to review the quality of care provided to children and take action to address any shortfalls identified.

Recommendation

- The registered person should encourage children to regularly contribute to their records in a way that reflects their voice. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 58, paragraph 11.19)

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, 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: 2548794

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Seva Childcare Limited

Registered provider address: 71 to 75 Shelton Street, London WC2H 9JQ

Responsible individual: Mahesh Kotecha

Registered manager: Rukiye Yildirim

Inspectors

Dorothy Thompstone, Social Care Inspector
Amena Begum, Social Care Inspector

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