

2578355

Registered provider: Horizon Care and Education Group Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is part of a large private organisation. The home cares for up to four children who may have social and emotional difficulties.

Since the last inspection, two children have left the home. At the time of this inspection, two children were living at the home.

There is a registered manager in post who holds a level 5 diploma in leadership and management.

Inspection date: 4 October 2023

Date of last inspection: 22 May 2023

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspections, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

Outcome from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Findings from the inspection

Staff take time to understand the needs of each child. As a result, children have good relationships with staff, and children say that they feel safe.

The home environment is warm and welcoming, having recently undergone some renovations. This has helped to create a family feel. The children's bedrooms are freshly decorated. Children have helped to choose the colour and theme of their bedroom, and as a result, children feel comfortable in the home environment.

Children are supported by staff to develop their independence skills. For example, one child has been supported to build their knowledge in key areas such as budgeting, cooking and independent travel. As a result, this child feels more equipped for adulthood.

When children move on from the home, this is well organised. Children are supported to attend and contribute to meetings about the plans for them to move, and they also have the opportunity to visit their new home. Gifts and celebratory meals before they move help children to feel valued.

Consequences are fair and effective. Consequences are proportionate with the child's actions and are always discussed with the child before being implemented. This helps the child to understand the reasons for the consequences and gives them the opportunity to reflect on their behaviour.

There has been one complaint since the last inspection. The manager progressed this well, ensuring the child had regular progress updates and that there were appropriate learning opportunities for staff.

Staff have improved the response to missing-from-care incidents since the previous inspection. Staff have a clear focus on ensuring the child returns home quickly and safely. Good communication with relevant professionals ensures everyone is kept up to date when a child is missing from the home. Children are spoken to when they return to help reduce the likelihood of further episodes.

The manager has ensured that staff are provided with training relevant to the needs of the children in their care. This has included training in areas such as autism and enuresis. Team meetings are used as an opportunity for staff to reflect on practice and discuss areas for development.

Since the previous inspection, some staff have successfully completed the level 3 diploma in children's residential care. The manager has also sought to give additional support to some staff in readiness for them to undertake their level 5 diplomas in leadership and management.

The professional supervision of staff and managers is effective in progressing practice. Staff supervision allows time for staff to discuss their development and any training needs. Supervision sessions are meaningful for staff and allow them to have open discussions with managers should concerns arise.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
22/05/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
05/07/2022	Full	Good
13/04/2021	Full	Good

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2578355

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Horizon Care and Education Group Limited

Registered provider address: Unit 12, Venture House, Prospect Business Park,
Longford Road, Cannock, Staffordshire WS11 0LG

Responsible individual: Emma Carrington

Registered manager: Leigha Taylor

Inspector

Chanel Bryant, Social Care Inspector

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