

2578355

Registered provider: Horizon Care and Education Group Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This 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 monitoring visit, one child living in the home has left. No new children have moved into the home, and the home is empty. The registered manager position is vacant, but an application to register with Ofsted has been received and is in progress.

Inspection date: 9 September 2024

This monitoring visit

On 18 and 19 June 2024, a full inspection of the home was completed. Ofsted judged the home as inadequate, as there were serious and widespread failures that meant children were not protected and their welfare was not promoted. As a result, Ofsted issued requirements in relation to regulations 6, 8, 12, 13, 24, 33, 35 and 36. Ofsted also issued a compliance notice under regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard) and a notice to restrict accommodation was issued.

A monitoring visit was completed on 23 July 2024. Significant improvement in the home was evidenced. As a result, the compliance notice under regulation 13 was met, along with regulations 6, 8, 12, 24 and 33.

The purpose of this visit was to review the progress managers have made since the last inspection and their readiness for new children to join the home when the restriction of accommodation notice expires on 12 September 2024.

Leaders and managers have made substantial progress since the last monitoring visit. Experienced senior leaders support the manager and provide them with

fortnightly supervision. This support has been in place since the last inspection and will continue for the rest of the year.

In turn, the manager provides effective supervision to staff. Staff members feel supported. One member of staff stated that the manager is confident and felt there had been a strong focus on training and development for the team.

Shortfalls in staff training were addressed at the last monitoring visit. Since then, the manager has developed further learning opportunities for the team and has provided in-depth training to strengthen staff knowledge. This is then continually reviewed to monitor the effectiveness of the training.

During the time the child lived in the home, missing-from-home incidents continued on a regular basis. Staff followed the child's missing-from-home protocol and worked in partnership with relevant agencies. Creative strategies to reduce the risk of missing-from-home episodes were considered. Professionals working with the child report that they are satisfied that staff were doing all they can to locate the child and encourage them to return to the home.

The child's transition out of the home was managed effectively. The manager supported the child to understand why they were moving on, but the details of the new home were not known until the day before the move. The child was taken out for a leaving gift prior to moving, and on the day of the move was taken to say goodbye to friends and had friends visit them in the home. The manager, at the request of the child, travelled with them to their new home to help the child settle, and the manager has visited the child since.

Managers continue to consider feedback from the last inspection and have made positive changes to the management arrangements of the home. The considerable progress made at the last monitoring visit has continued. While the home is empty, members of staff continue to gain experience by working in the company's neighbouring homes.

With no children living in the home, the requirements in relation to regulations 35 and 36 have not been considered during this visit and will be reviewed at the next full inspection. The progress made by the manager is such that the notice to restrict accommodation will end on 12 September 2024.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/06/2024	Full	Inadequate
22/05/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
05/07/2022	Full	Good
13/04/2021	Full	Good

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, The 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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
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— a description of the measure and its duration; the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; and 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. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(iv)(vii)(b)(i))	28 November 2024
The registered person must maintain records ("case records") for each child which— include the information and documents listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child; are kept up to date. (Regulation 36 (1)(a)(b))	28 November 2024

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: 2578355

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Horizon Care and Education Group Limited

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

Responsible individual: Alexander Scott

Registered manager: Post Vacant

Inspector

Joanne Hawkins, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024