

2594985

New Horizons (nw) Ltd

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is privately owned. It is registered to provide care for four children who may have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties and learning disabilities.

The manager was registered with Ofsted in August 2020.

Inspection date: 18 March 2021

This monitoring visit

This children's home was registered in August 2020 and has not yet had a full inspection. A monitoring visit was conducted on 18 March 2021 to review the care and safeguarding arrangements for the children living at the home. The visit was carried out using a combination of remote and on-site activity. At the time of the monitoring visit, four children were living at the home.

Children live in a safe and supportive home environment. The staff team has created a warm, family atmosphere in the home. Children have quickly developed positive and trusting relationships with staff. One child said, 'Staff are kind and help us with everything.'

Children make progress in a short period of time. For example, staff are supporting one child to become more independent with all aspects of their personal care.

Prior to coming to the home, some children had not attended school for long periods of time. Staff have successfully supported children to gradually re-engage with education and all children now attend school regularly.

The staff team endeavours to create a fun and playful atmosphere which children clearly thrive on. Children's hobbies and interests are promoted. Staff encourage children to take part in a wide range of activities both at home and in the local community. For example, one child enjoys horse-riding lessons. An independent

reviewing officer said, 'I have observed such a huge improvement in the overall development of the children and am aware of the variety of activities the staff have provided to ensure that the children experience a stimulating environment.'

Staff are creative and seek opportunities for children to engage in important childhood activities such as playing games, baking, singing and dancing. Children benefit from the nurturing approach adopted by staff. For example, staff read stories at bedtime to help some children to settle.

Children are developing positive relationships with each other. Staff have used individual and group work sessions to support children to explore their feelings and relationships with each other. This has helped children to strengthen previously fractious relationships with their siblings. One independent reviewing officer said, 'The work to support the children with their relationship has been so beneficial and it is a pleasure to observe their interactions together. I feel they support each other now, which is a fantastic improvement.'

Staff have established consistent boundaries and routines, which children are adapting to and responding well to. For example, the introduction of a bedtime routine has supported one child to sleep through the night for the first time.

Children's care plans are detailed and contain clear guidance for staff. This supports staff to respond consistently to children's needs. Staff rarely use physical interventions to manage children's behaviours. When incidents do occur, staff encourage children to reflect on their behaviour and the impact it has on others.

External professionals speak highly of the manager and express confidence in the staff team's ability to meet the children's needs. One independent reviewing officer said, 'The manager is a great advocate for the children. She clearly has a good understanding of their support needs, but also what they like and what works for them.'

Some shortfalls were identified in the manager's oversight of records. For example, the home's statement of purpose does not detail the individual staff employed at the home or their qualifications and experience of working with children. A requirement has been made to address this matter.

The registered manager reviews all the records of significant incidents within the home. However, she does not record the findings of her analysis of these incidents. This is a missed opportunity to identify patterns and shape future practice. Greater analysis of incidents should also support the manager's decision-making with regards to notifying Ofsted of incidents that have occurred within the home. Recommendations have been made to improve practice in this area.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
Not previously inspected		

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 registered person must— keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16 (3)(a)(b))	30 April 2021

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that children's homes are nurturing and supportive environments that meet the needs of their children, they will, in most cases, be homely, domestic environments. ('Guide to the children's home regulations including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9) In particular, repairs should be made to the home's double glazing.
- The registered person should make best use of information from internal monitoring to ensure continuous improvement. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 55, paragraph 10.24) Specifically, the registered person should develop a robust system for analysing and monitoring significant incidents within the home.
- Regulation 40(4) requires the registered person to notify Ofsted and other relevant persons if one of the situations specified in regulation 40(4)(a)-(d) occurs, or if there is an incident relating to the protection, safeguarding or welfare of a child living in the home which the registered person considers to be serious (40(4)(e)). ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 63, paragraph 14.10)

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: 2594985

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: New Horizons (nw) Ltd

Registered provider address: Unit 12, Riversway Business Village, Navigation Way, Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston PR2 2YP

Responsible individual: Natalie Waterhouse

Registered manager: Chloe Byrne

Inspector

Sophie Thomson, Social Care Inspector

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