

2599994

Registered provider: Kingston upon Hull City Council

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is run by a local authority. It provides care for one child who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The registered manager position is vacant and has been since 18 July 2023. Between July 2023 and February 2024, there was a manager in post who did not register with Ofsted. They chose to leave the position in February 2024. An acting manager has been in post since then who has not yet registered with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 22 May 2024

This monitoring visit

During a full inspection on 29 and 30 April 2024, serious shortfalls were identified relating to the safety and protection of children and the leadership and management of the home. This resulted in an inadequate judgement. A compliance notice under regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard) was issued, detailing the steps necessary to address the shortfalls. This visit was carried out to assess progress towards completing the steps detailed in the compliance notice.

Leaders and managers have reviewed the management arrangements at the home. The interim manager is receiving additional support from senior leaders, and plans are in place to appoint a permanent manager to the home. Additional oversight is taking place with the responsible individual to ensure that work is completed in accordance with the compliance notice.

Risk assessments have been thoroughly reviewed and are now much clearer documents for staff to follow. The content of these documents and the restrictive court order have been discussed with staff in supervision sessions and in team meetings to further embed staff's understanding of them.

The manager and staff have received training to improve their understanding and competence in relation to a number of safeguarding matters. This includes the use of physical intervention and the use of stigmatising and blaming language. The learning has been reinforced in supervision sessions and team meetings. The provider's plan is that this will contribute to a consistent approach by staff, who will have the appropriate level of training to equip them with the skills and knowledge needed.

Improvements have been made to the presentation and interior of the home. Some cosmetic decoration has taken place, and flooring has been replaced. The child's bedroom has improved, and the environment is a much more homely place for them to spend time. There is a plan in place that includes a list of long-term improvements that the manager wants to be completed in the home.

The measures above have addressed some of the steps in the compliance notice to an extent. However, further time is needed to embed these changes. The effect of the increased management oversight of the home and the learning from training that has been completed is not yet evident. However, due to the positive changes implemented in a short space of time, the compliance notice has been met. Steps in the compliance notice that have not been fully met have been raised as an additional requirement.

The other shortfalls identified at the full inspection have not been reviewed during this monitoring visit. For this reason, these requirements and the recommendation have been restated and will be reviewed during future inspection activity.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
29/04/2024	Full	Inadequate
08/08/2023	Full	Good
31/10/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
11/07/2022	Full	Inadequate

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person 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 must comply with 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— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff work as a team where appropriate; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child; ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care for each child; understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home; demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on— research and developments in relation to the ways in which children's needs are best met; and	30 June 2024

feedback on the experiences of children, including complaints received; and use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(g)(h)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that management arrangements at the home are effective, and that staff are consistently well supported to meet the child's needs. They must ensure that systems are in place so that staff clearly understand and adhere to the content of the child's risk assessments, behaviour management plans and the restrictive court order. This applies to any records or guidance relating to the safe care of the child. In addition, leaders and managers must ensure that there are effective monitoring and reviewing systems in place to ensure that any shortfalls can be identified and responded to appropriately.	
The registered provider must appoint a person to manage the children's home if— there is no registered manager in respect of the home; and the registered provider— is an organisation or a partnership; does not satisfy regulation 28; or is not, or does not intend to be, in day-to-day charge of the home. (Regulation 27 (1)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii)) This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	30 June 2024
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	30 June 2024

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; manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; and that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(d)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that shortfalls in risk assessments are identified and mitigated against. Risk assessments must also be clear so that staff know how to provide safe, good-quality and consistent care to the child. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—	30 June 2024

understand and apply the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff— understand and apply the home's statement of purpose; provide personalised care that meets each child's needs, as recorded in the child's relevant plans, taking account of the child's background; help each child to understand and manage the impact of any experience of abuse or neglect; make decisions about the day-to-day arrangements for each child, in accordance with the child's relevant plans, which give the child an appropriate degree of freedom and choice. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii) (ix)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff deliver consistent, quality care in line with the statement of purpose. In addition, they must ensure that staff understand the trauma the child has suffered and how this may impact on their behaviour, and that all staff know and understand the restrictive order from the court and what this means for staff practice. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation; an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious; there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; a child protection enquiry involving a child —	30 June 2024

is instigated; or

concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or

there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious.
(Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))

In particular, the registered person must ensure that all notifiable events are sent to the regulator.

This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that the home complies with relevant health and safety legislation. In particular, they should ensure that fire doors are not propped open. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)

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: 2599994

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Kingston upon Hull City Council

Registered provider address: The Guildhall, Alfred Gelder Street, Hull HU1 2AA

Responsible individual: Michele Colthup

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Gail McGann, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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