

2611027

Registered provider: Halliwell Homes Midlands Division Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a private children's home that provides care and accommodation for up to eight children. The home has an attached registered school.

The inspector only inspected the social care provision at this school

The manager took up post on 15 June 2021 and was registered with Ofsted on 15 September 2021. The manager has an appropriate qualification.

Due to COVID-19, at the request of the Secretary of State, we suspended all routine inspections of social care providers carried out under the social care common inspection framework (SCCIF) on 17 March 2020. We returned to routine SCCIF inspections on 12 April 2021.

Inspection dates: 25 and 26 January 2022

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account **good**

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

The effectiveness of leaders and managers **good**

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

Date of last inspection: Not applicable

Overall judgement at last inspection: Not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection: Not applicable

Recent inspection history

Not previously inspected

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

This is the first inspection since the home was registered in September 2021. During this time, there have been five admissions, and one child has moved to a home more suited to their needs.

Children enjoy a good quality of care that enables them to make good progress. Staff work hard to ensure that children live in a safe, caring and supportive environment. This coordinated approach helps children to have improved outcomes, especially in their school attendance and in being able to exercise better self-control with regard to their emotions.

The manager appreciates the significance of careful matching of children's needs. However, impact risk assessments do not always include the views of other professionals and the children already living at the home. Furthermore, one assessment has not acknowledged the needs of the children already resident at the home and those of the new child being admitted. This creates a missed opportunity to promote consultation with all stakeholders, along with the potential to impact negatively on the continuity of care provided.

The manager ensures that the health of children is promoted positively. Children have clear health plans and are registered with the relevant primary healthcare services. Children have access to the organisation's therapists. This tailored care contributes to children receiving support and guidance in relation to their emotional, social and psychological well-being.

Medication is stored safely, and arrangements for the administration and recording of prescribed and non-prescribed medication are effective.

All children attend the organisation's on-site school. Children have made good progress in engaging in education, based on their individual needs and starting points. School and home staff have effective daily communication regarding children that provides a good consistency of care.

Staff understand the importance of relationships and support children to see their families. Children benefit from this and it helps them to maintain positive relationships even though they are living away from home.

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

Staff have a good understanding of the children in their care and of their individual vulnerabilities. There is a clear procedure for reporting and managing safeguarding concerns, and staff have a good understanding of this process and of their responsibilities.

The manager and staff develop detailed risk assessments and management plans for each child, which are monitored and updated so they remain relevant and effective. Staff supervise children in line with their risk management plans to ensure their safety in the home and the community.

Staff manage challenging behaviour effectively and encourage children to reflect on incidents in a constructive and supportive way. Inappropriate behaviour is challenged or de-escalated as appropriate. Staff reinforce clear boundaries and provide daily routines and stability for children. This is supported by praise and recognition of achievements. Restraint is only ever used as a last resort to protect children from harm, accident or injury, and is proportionate to their behaviour.

There is swift action taken by staff when children go missing from the home. Partnership working with the police and safeguarding agencies helps to ensure that children are safe. Staff go looking for children and, in line with protocols, share information with the police at an early stage. Children are provided with an independent person to speak to on their return home. This helps to add detail to existing information and this, if appropriately considered, may help to protect them from going missing from home again.

Children live in a home that is physically safe and secure. Staff complete regular health and safety checks and follow a range of safety procedures to protect children from potential hazards. This includes fire drills, to ensure children know what to do in case of an emergency.

Children are protected by the organisation's effective recruitment practices. Staff are background checked and assessed as suitable before any appointment is confirmed. These procedures promote the safety of the children by preventing unsuitable adults from working with them.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Staff speak positively about the manager and say that they are well supported. She provides staff with regular supervision that enables them to reflect on their practice. Team meetings are well attended, and staff confidently engage in discussions about the service and the children in their care. Staff also meet monthly with a therapist from the organisation's clinical team. This provides staff with valuable insight into the care needs of the children and enables staff to explore any areas of concern.

Staff are suitably qualified or currently undertaking their qualifications in residential childcare. There is a good training programme in place to ensure that staff have the necessary skills to meet the complex and challenging needs of the children in their care. However, the training record is not accurate and does not support the manager in reviewing when a staff member is due for training or what training has been completed.

The manager has effective monitoring systems that capture children's progress and parents' and professionals' views and ensure that documentation is

detailed and up to date. These systems allow her to understand the team's strengths and the areas that require further development.

The manager and staff work effectively with a range of other professionals. These include social workers, school staff and health professionals. As a result, children benefit from coordinated care and make good progress. A social worker reported, 'My communication and collaboration with all staff has been great.'

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 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— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(h)) This specifically relates to the training matrix and ensuring that it is kept up to date and accurate.	16 March 2022
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that children are admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home's statement of purpose. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)) This specifically relates to impact risk assessments and including consultation with others as part of the assessment	16 March 2022

process. Furthermore, ensuring that matching of children is carefully followed.	
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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: 2611027

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Halliwell Homes Midlands Division Limited

Registered provider address: Pearce House, 80 Cawdor Street, Eccles M30 0QF

Responsible individual: Paul Bliss

Registered manager: Elizabeth Rowley

Inspector

Dave Carrigan, Social Care Inspector

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