

2625941

Registered provider: Active Young People Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a private company. It provides care for up to nine children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

The manager registered with Ofsted in April 2023. Five children were living in the home at the time of the inspection.

Inspection date: 18 November 2024

Date of last inspection: 7 August 2024

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

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

The inspector 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'.

Findings 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. All the requirements and recommendations made at the full inspection are met.

Children's risk assessments are easy to understand and contain all known risks. Staff understand these risks well. Risk assessments no longer contain blaming language and no longer misrepresent emotions displayed by children. Staff also understand children's care plans well and follow these. This helps the manager to be assured that children are well-cared for, and that staff help to keep children safe.

The manager has an effective escalation policy in place to ensure children's statutory documents are received from each child's placing authority. This means staff have access to important information about the children. Staff use this information to develop targets for children. This supports children to make progress.

Staff are creative in helping children to build relationships with each other. For example, staff have arranged movie nights and indoor snowball play. This helps children to make progress with their social skills and develop friendships.

The manager has developed a strategy to address shortfalls in staff skills and qualifications. This will also help to ensure consistency of staffing and continuity of care to children. She is dedicated to improving children's experiences of living in this home.

The manager commissioned staff training related to instilling professional boundaries and professional curiosity. Staff say they have found helpful and beneficial to their role. The management team have observed that staff are implementing the learnings from this training and that it is contributing to improved practice.

The home's managers have significantly improved the auditing and monitoring processes. These are effective and highlight areas for staff development. For example, managers challenge how risk assessments are reviewed and suggest actions to improve practice that impacts on children's experiences, such as rewarding children more for positive behaviour.

Supervision sessions are regular and reflective in nature. However, records do not consistently reflect the supervisor's discussions with the supervisee. This prevents the manager from being assured that these records are an accurate reflection of the discussions that take place.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/08/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
28/06/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
25/05/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
22/02/2022	Full	Inadequate

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

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that a note of the content and/or outcomes of supervision sessions are kept to ensure that both the person giving the supervision session and staff member have a copy of the record. In particular, the record should contain the supervisor's responses to points raised by the supervisee. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 13.14)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2625941

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Active Young People Limited

Registered provider address: 1 Suffolk Way, Sevenoaks TN13 1YL

Responsible individual: Gemma Wilkinson

Registered manager: Stevie Daley

Inspector

Julia Hagan, Social Care Inspector

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