

2634624

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is privately owned. It is registered to provide care for one child who may have emotional, behavioural or social difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted on 1 August 2022.

Inspection date: 1 August 2022

This monitoring visit

There is currently a condition in place whereby the provider must inform Ofsted of their intention to accommodate children at least three months before any child is accommodated.

This monitoring visit was undertaken to ascertain whether the condition can be lifted.

The home has been closed since February 2022. The closure was due to a shortage of staff to care for children. Leaders and managers have worked hard in recent months to recruit a new staff team. However, they have not yet been able to achieve this. Some new staff have been appointed, but they are not yet in post. As such, there are still insufficient staff to care for children at this point.

The manager is continuing with the recruitment process. She understands the importance of establishing a team that is ready to provide consistent care for children before the home opens. A further monitoring visit will take place to ensure that there are sufficient staff in place. The condition imposed by Ofsted will remain in place until such a time when Ofsted can be assured of suitable staffing arrangements.

Leaders and managers are committed to opening the home. The manager is newly registered, ambitious and wants to provide the best care to children. She is well supported by senior colleagues who have provided her with a thorough induction and training programme. The home has been well maintained during the closure. It

remains well decorated, and regular health and safety checks take place. This means that the home can provide a comfortable environment when a child moves in.

Managers recognise that they need to make careful decisions about children coming to live at the home. They are taking important factors into account, such as matching the needs of children to the skills and experience of the staff. This is particularly important as some staff are new to working in residential childcare. The manager is taking her time over this. She understands the importance of getting this right and providing children with stability and security.

The requirements and recommendation from the full inspection remain in place while the home is being re-established. They will be reviewed at the next inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date

19/08/2021

Inspection type

Full

Inspection judgement

Requires improvement to be 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, 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 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 necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; and understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(v)) This specifically relates to managers and leaders ensuring that risk assessments are fully up to date and that staff have knowledge of them, understand them and are supported to follow them correctly.	27 September 2021
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—	27 September 2021

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; and

ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child.

(Regulation 13 (1)(a) (2)(a)(b))

This specifically relates to ensuring that the team is working together following recent changes and that they all have the training required to care for a child safely.

Recommendation

- The registered person must ensure the home has enough suitably trained staff on duty to meet the assessed needs of all children in the home and that those staff are able to respond to emergency placements, where accepted. The registered person must demonstrate every effort to achieve continuity of staffing so that children's attachments are not overly disrupted, including ensuring that the employment of any temporary staff will not prevent children from receiving the continuity of care that they need. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 51, paragraph 10.1)

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: 2634624

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Registered provider address: Esland Ltd, Suite 1 & 5, Riverside Business Centre, Foundry Lane, Milford, Belper DE56 0RN

Responsible individual: Melanie Dougill

Registered manager: Jillian Allen

Inspector

Laura Walker, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
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