

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: 28 October 2022

This monitoring visit

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

During a previous monitoring visit on 1 August 2022, the provider demonstrated that it had met many of the requirements for the condition to be lifted. However, at that time, the home did not have sufficient staff. Consequently, a further monitoring visit was undertaken to specifically review staffing issues and sufficiency.

Leaders and managers have been in regular communication with Ofsted about staff recruitment since the monitoring visit on 1 August 2022. They provided information ahead of the monitoring visit to provide Ofsted with reassurance that there was a suitably experienced staff team to care for children. Some of the staff have worked for the provider for several years. A child has recently made a successful move to the home.

The child has received a warm welcome. The manager and staff ensured that he had a positive transition supported by family and professionals who know him well. The manager and staff are still getting to know him and his family and speak positively about them. There are plans for the child to see his family regularly and the home is supporting this. This approach is helping the child through a significant period of change and uncertainty in his life.

Leaders and managers have ensured that staff have been recruited safely. Thorough checks have been undertaken following safe recruitment protocols. The members of the staff team have completed a thorough induction and relevant training to care for the child. Staff say that this has provided them with the knowledge and skills to care for the child safely.

The manager continues to maintain the home to a good standard. It is homely and well furnished. The child says that he likes his bedroom and the other areas of the home. This will help him to feel safe and comfortable as he begins to settle in.

Following the monitoring visit, Ofsted has agreed that the current registration condition can be lifted. The requirements and recommendation from the full inspection remain in place while the home is being re-established. This will provide the leaders and managers with the opportunity to keep the home on a clear improvement trajectory.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
19/08/2021	Full	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; 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, that staff have knowledge of them, understand them and are supported to follow them correctly.	9 December 2022
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;	9 December 2022

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. (Regulation 13 (1)(a) (2)(a)(b)) This specifically relates to ensuring that the team is working together following recent changes and that its members all have the training required to care for the child safely.	
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Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that 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 should 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: Suites 1 & 5, Riverside Business Centre, Foundry Lane, Milford, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 0RN

Responsible individual: Melanie Dougill

Registered manager: Jillian Allen

Inspector

Laura Walker, Social Care Inspector

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