

2645878

Nurture Childcare Services Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a private organisation and provides care for up to two children with social and emotional difficulties and learning disabilities.

At the time of the visit, the home's registration was suspended. Therefore, there were no children living in the home.

There is currently no manager at the home and the post is vacant.

Inspection date: 13 December 2022

This monitoring visit

This home was judged inadequate at the full inspection in November 2022. Due to the serious and widespread concerns identified, an immediate notice to suspend the registration of the home was issued on 1 November 2022.

During this visit, the inspector confirmed that the provider had complied with the conditions of the notice.

There is no registered manager in post. The team of staff team who were working in the home at the time of the full inspection have been dispersed. Some staff have left the company, and some are working in other homes that are operated by the same provider.

There is a newly appointed responsible individual, who has completed an action plan in respect of the requirements and recommendations that were made following the full inspection.

In the absence of a manager and staff team, there is limited evidence to show progress towards addressing the shortfalls that were previously identified. These requirements have therefore been restated.

The home is vacant and requires some decoration and maintenance before children can safely move back in.

The register for children could not be located and has not been updated to include the details of where children who were living in the home at the time of the last inspection have moved on to. A requirement has been made in respect of this.

A case review was held following this visit. In Ofsted's opinion, the grounds for suspension remain current and the suspension will remain in place. This will allow the provider time to recruit a suitably experienced and qualified manager and a staff team.

Ofsted will continue to monitor the suspension.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/11/2022	Full	Inadequate
01/03/2022	Full	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 education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans; support each child's learning and development, including helping the child to develop independent study skills and, where appropriate, helping the child to complete independent study; understand the barriers to learning that each child may face and take appropriate action to help the child to overcome any such barriers; help each child to understand the importance and value of education, learning, training and employment; promote opportunities for each child to learn informally; maintain regular contact with each child's education and training provider, including engaging with the provider and the placing authority to support the child's education and training and to maximise the child's achievement; raise any need for further assessment or specialist provision in relation to a child with the child's education or training provider and the child's placing authority; help a child who is excluded from school, or who is of compulsory school age but not attending school, to access educational and training support throughout the period of	17 January 2023

exclusion or non-attendance and to return to school as soon as possible; help each child to attend education or training in accordance with the expectations in the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii)(x)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that children are supported to access education in line with their relevant plans and promote opportunities for children to learn informally.	
The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and positive responses to other children and adults. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— meet each child's behavioural and emotional needs, as set out in the child's relevant plans; help each child to develop socially aware behaviour; encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and understanding; communicate to each child expectations about the child's behaviour and ensure that the child understands those expectations in accordance with the child's age and understanding; help each child to understand, in a way that is appropriate according to the child's age and understanding, personal, sexual and social relationships, and how those relationships can be supportive or harmful; understand how children's previous experiences and present emotions can be communicated through behaviour and have the competence and skills to interpret these and develop positive relationships with children;	17 January 2023

are provided with supervision and support to enable them to understand and manage their own feelings and responses to the behaviour and emotions of children, and to help children to do the same; that each child is encouraged to build and maintain positive relationships with others. (Regulation 11 (1)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(ix)(x)(b)) Specifically, leaders and managers should ensure that staff support children to take responsibility for their behaviour by communicating the expectations. Furthermore, leaders and managers must ensure that staff understand children's relevant plans and are supported to manage their own feelings and responses through supervision sessions and debriefs.	
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; 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	17 January 2023

are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; 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; that the effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(e)) In particular, leaders and managers must ensure that staff understand children's risks and can take appropriate action to safeguard children. This is a repeated requirement.	
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 to 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;	17 January 2023

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 the needs of children are best met; and 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)(i)(ii)(h)) Explicitly, leaders and managers must review and monitor the care provided and ensure that there are sufficiently qualified, skilled and experienced staff to deliver the care safely.	
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's 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; that arrangements are in place to— manage and review the placement of each child in the home; and that each child's relevant plans are followed; that staff help each child to access and contribute to the records kept by the registered person in relation to the child. (Regulation 14 (1)(a) (2)(a)(b)(ii)(c)(f)) In particular, leaders and managers must ensure that there are relevant plans for children and that children are supported to contribute to these plans.	17 January 2023
The registered person must—	17 January 2023

keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16 (3)(a)(b))	
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. If the registered provider appoints a person to manage the home, the registered provider must, without delay, give HMCI notice of— the name of the person so appointed; and the date on which the appointment takes effect. (Regulation 27 (1)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii) (2)(a)(b))	17 January 2023
The registered person must ensure that— within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes— the name of the child; details of the child's behaviour leading to the use of the measure; the date, time and location of the use of the measure; a description of the measure and its duration;	17 January 2023

details of any methods used or steps taken to avoid the need to use the measure; the name of the person who used the measure ("the user"), and of any other person present when the measure was used; the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; and within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person")— has spoken to the user about the measure; and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(i)(ii)(c)) Specifically, following any incident of restraint, the registered person must make a record of the restraint and include the necessary information detailed in regulation 35.	
Schedule 4 sets out the other information that the registered person must keep in relation to a children's home. The registered person must— maintain in the home the records in Schedule 4; ensure that the records are kept up to date; and retain the records for at least 15 years from the date of the last entry. (Regulation 37 (1) (2)(a)(b)(c)) This relates specifically to the register of children. This needs to be updated with the details of where the children who were living in the home at point of suspension have moved to.	17 January 2023

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: 2645878

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Nurture Childcare Services Limited

Registered provider address: Seighford Hall, Clanford Road, Seighford, Stafford
ST18 9NL

Responsible individual: Isobel Green

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Emma Thornton, Social Care Inspector

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