

2666995

Registered provider: Assure Care Homes Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

According to the provider's statement of purpose, this children's home provides care and accommodation for up to two children with social and emotional difficulties. It is owned by a private organisation.

The manager and the home have been registered with Ofsted since 18 November 2021.

Inspection date: 16 May 2022

This monitoring visit

Ofsted issued a notice restricting accommodation to the children's home on 25 February 2022, due to there being a risk of harm if more children are moved into the home.

On 7 March 2022, Ofsted carried out a further monitoring visit to the home to ensure that the provider was complying with the notice restricting accommodation, and to seek assurance that one compliance notice in relation to fire safety was met. This notice had not been met so a further compliance notice was served with regard to fire safety.

On 12 April 2022, Ofsted carried out a full inspection of the home and judged it inadequate. At that inspection, serious shortfalls were identified and, as a result, six requirements were made. Three of those requirements were repeated from a monitoring visit carried out on 7 March 2022.

The purpose of this monitoring visit was to ensure that the provider is complying with the notice restricting accommodation and to obtain an update on the service.

Since the last inspection, the provider has continued to comply with the notice restricting accommodation. No new children have moved in and the child who was

previously living in the home has moved on. The registered manager has resigned from their post and the staff have been temporarily redeployed to another home within the organisation.

During this visit, the responsible individual provided a verbal update on the plans in place to address the identified shortfalls, as well as the organisation's aim to reopen the home. This included recruiting a new home manager. However, the details of these plans were not available to review by the inspectors on the day of the visit. The responsible individual informed the inspectors that these plans, and an updated statement of purpose, would be shared with Ofsted following a team meeting scheduled to take place on 17 May 2022.

The requirements made at the home's first full inspection were not reviewed as part of this visit and remain in place. The due date for these requirements is 19 June 2022.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/04/2022	Full	Inadequate

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 health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met; children receive advice, services and support in relation to their health and well-being; and children are helped to lead healthy lifestyles. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff help each child to— achieve the health and well-being outcomes that are recorded in the child's relevant plans; take part in activities, and attend any appointments, for the purpose of meeting the child's health and well-being needs; and understand and develop skills to promote the child's well-being. (Regulation 10 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(iv)) In particular, the registered person should refer children to the necessary clinical agencies when needed. They should ensure they are in receipt of the children's relevant medical histories. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	19 June 2022
The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust;	19 June 2022

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; strive to gain each child’s respect and trust; 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; and 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. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(viii)(ix)(x))	
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; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child’s welfare and	19 June 2022

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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(v)(vi)(b)) In particular, complete a written audit of each staff member's skills and training in relation to risk assessment and management. This is to include senior leaders. Identify any gaps and produce a written plan, with timescales, to demonstrate how these gaps will be addressed. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
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;	19 June 2022

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 the children are best met; and feedback on the experiences of children 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))	
The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. (Regulation 23 (1)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that there is a safe system in place in line with statutory guidance for the handling of regulated medicines	19 June 2022
The registered person must ensure that all employees— undertake appropriate continuing professional development; receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33 (4)(a)(b)) This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	19 June 2022
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.	19 June 2022

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))

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: 2666995

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Assure Care Homes Ltd

Registered provider address: Unit 4, Northbrook Industrial Estate, Hollybrook Road, Shirley, Southampton, Hampshire SO16 6PB

Responsible individual: Luencina Zankl

Registered manager: Ryan Thirlwell

Inspectors

Amanda Harvey, Social Care Inspector

Mark Dawkins, Social Care Inspector

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