

2672782

Registered provider: Doonamis Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is run by a private company and provides care for up to three children. It provides emergency and short-term to long-term care for children.

The manager and the home registered in September 2022.

Inspection date: 21 February 2023

This monitoring visit

There were two children living in the home at the time of this monitoring visit.

On 26 January 2023, Ofsted served two compliance notices and a restriction of accommodation notice. The compliance notices were in relation to the protection of children and the leadership and management of the home. This visit took place to assess the action that leaders and managers have taken in response to the serious shortfalls.

The provider has complied with the restriction of accommodation. No new children have moved into the home since the restriction of accommodation notice was served.

Leaders and managers have made some progress in responding to the concerns outlined in the compliance notices. However, they have not yet taken enough action to address all the shortfalls identified. Consequently, the provider has not met the compliance notices. Ofsted has served two further compliance notices and the restriction of accommodation will remain in place.

Risk assessments are still of poor quality, with insufficient detail. Leaders and managers have failed to ensure that these have been updated following incidents. A

failure to ensure that risk assessments are updated with children's current and presenting risks compromises the staff's ability to keep children safe.

Leaders and managers previously failed to assess the needs of a child moving into the home. They have failed to take action to address this shortfall. There has been no further work done to develop the guidance to assess risks when arranging for children to move into the home. The failure to ensure children are appropriately assessed means that the previously identified risk to children remains.

The manager's monitoring has failed to identify ongoing weaknesses in the quality of risk assessments, behaviour plans and health plans. Inadequate monitoring and management oversight mean that staff are not receiving appropriate written guidance and support. This has led to continued shortfalls and a failure to meet the compliance notices.

Leaders and managers have failed to ensure that children's health plans contain sufficient detail. Consequently, these plans do not support staff to understand children's health needs or guide them in how to manage those needs.

No new staff have been employed at the home, therefore, it has not been possible to assess if safer recruitment practices are being used when employing staff.

Leaders and managers have made some improvements. Staff gather children's views, wishes and feelings through informal conversations, regular house meetings and discussions. This means that children feel heard and know that their wishes and feelings are important to staff.

Staff and managers no longer carry out random room searches. Staff only search the children's rooms if there is a safeguarding or welfare concern. A child said that this change means they feel that staff now respect their personal space.

The responsible individual and the manager have refreshed their safeguarding training and attended training for designated safeguarding leads. Senior managers reported a safeguarding concern appropriately to the local authority designated officer and Ofsted. The staff team has attended refresher safeguarding training and policies have been updated. As a result, the staff have an improved understanding of how to safeguard children and clearer guidance on who to report concerns to.

The records of children missing from care have improved. Staff now record the conversations they have had with children about where they have been and what has happened during the time that they have been missing. This shows that staff are beginning to use professional curiosity to better understand risks and how to keep children safer in the future. Children are now offered the option to speak to an independent person on their return.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/01/2023	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 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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)) In particular: ensure that assessments of risk are accurate, clear, up to date and identify relevant information, allowing staff to manage risks and help children to understand risks and improve their own safety; ensure that clear plans and guidance are in place to carefully consider children's risks and behaviours when arranging the placement of children in the home.	31 March 2023
*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.	31 March 2023

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; 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; 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)(f)(h))	
The health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met; 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; and understand and develop skills to promote the child’s well-being. (Regulation 10 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iv)) This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	31 March 2023
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children’s home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the 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	31 March 2023

that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home's statement of purpose. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a))	
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This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
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*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

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: 2672782

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Doonamis Limited

Registered provider address: 117 Kingfisher Close, Shoeburyness, Southend-on-Sea SS3 9YB

Responsible individual: Sophie Zwizwai

Registered manager: Fungai Chikwanda

Inspector

Trish Palmer, Social Care Inspector

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