

2694962

Registered provider: Prosperity Childrens Services

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately owned and provides care for up to two children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The home registered with Ofsted in September 2022.

There is a new manager in post who has not yet submitted an application to register with Ofsted.

There were no children living at the home at the time of this monitoring visit.

Inspection date: 27 February 2024

This monitoring visit

During an assurance visit on 16 January 2024, the inspector identified significant shortfalls in safeguarding practice and the leadership and management arrangements at the home. As a result, an immediate notice to suspend the registration of the home was served.

The focus of this visit was to monitor the suspension notice and review the actions taken by the provider to address the identified shortfalls. The provider has taken action to reduce the risks identified at the assurance visit on 16 January 2024. There is a clear strategy for how the provider plans to improve the care delivered to children, specifically around the leadership and management of the home and the help and protection of children.

A new manager has been appointed who has relevant experience and knowledge of working with children in residential care. The manager is working alongside other leaders and managers and has a clear focus on improving the quality of care for children. A new staff team has been recruited, consisting of six new members of staff.

Leaders and managers have shared a plan to stagger admissions of new children moving into the home to ensure that the team is sufficiently skilled and confident to support children and keep them safe.

New staff have a detailed induction that covers areas such as the home's policies and procedures, safeguarding, physical restraints, managing allegations, first aid and safe administration of medication. Newly recruited staff have completed reflective supervision, which included discussion about their practice and their understanding of children's risks.

Leaders and managers have monitoring systems in place to ensure that staff understand their roles and responsibilities. The staff team has completed mandatory training and additional training, including child criminal and sexual exploitation and whistle-blowing. Staff performance and the impact of training will be reviewed during probationary periods and in reflective supervision and team meetings.

Leaders and managers have a plan to monitor the care provided to the children and have strengthened the safeguarding arrangements. The manager will be supported by senior practitioners to oversee the daily practice in the home. The responsible individual will be present in the home on a weekly basis. Audits of all aspects of the home will be completed on a bi-monthly basis by the manager and the responsible individual. Leaders and managers have reflected on the quality of previous audits and identified that these did not sufficiently consider the quality of records. The new audit tool is designed to consider quality more robustly. A new independent person has been recruited to strengthen the external assessment of the home's safeguarding practice.

The provider has taken action to address the damage and hazards in the home.

The suspension notice has now been lifted.

The requirements raised at the assurance visit were not considered at this monitoring visit.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
19/07/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
18/01/2023	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, The 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 with 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; 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 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 premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health; and that the effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(d)(e))	30 April 2024

In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff act appropriately to safeguard children during incidents of challenging behaviour. The registered person must ensure that individual incidents are appropriately evaluated. 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 have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of 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; 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)(c)(f)(g)(i)(ii)(h))	30 April 2024

In particular, the registered person must ensure that written records have appropriate management oversight and that any errors in recording are noted and rectified. The registered person must ensure that staff receive training relevant to the specific needs of the children in a timely way. The registered person must ensure that there is sufficient support for managers in their role. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
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 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— ensure the effective induction of each child into the home; manage and review the placement of each child in the home; and that each child’s relevant plans are followed. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that children’s individual needs are assessed prior to them moving in and that staff have the relevant skills and experience to meet their needs. The registered person must ensure that children have appropriate placement plans in place.	30 April 2024

This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
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. (Regulation 37 (1) (2)(a)(b)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that the planned and actual hours worked by the manager in the home are recorded on the rota. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	10 April 2024
The independent person must produce a report about a visit ("the independent person's report") which sets out, in particular, the independent person's opinion as to whether— children are effectively safeguarded; and the conduct of the home promotes children's well-being. (Regulation 44 (4)(a)(b)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that there is sufficient detail in the report, which provides good-quality information to support the manager's monitoring of the home and allows effective oversight from the regulator. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	30 April 2024
In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating— the quality of care provided for children; the feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it.	30 June 2024

The system referred to in paragraph (2) must provide for ascertaining and considering the opinions of children, their parents, placing authorities and staff. (Regulation 45 (2)(a)(b) (5)) This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
The registered person must— 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)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that the statement of purpose is updated with any changes in staffing. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	30 April 2024

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: 2694962

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Prosperity Children's Services

Registered provider address: Prosperity Childrens Services Ltd, 8 Mercury Rise,
Altham Business Park, Altham, Accrington BB5 5BY

Responsible individual: John Bolton

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Sarah Jackson, Social Care Inspector

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