

SC004085

Diverse Abilities Plus Ltd.

Monitoring visit

Information about this children's home

This home is run by an independent charitable organisation. The organisation provides a short-breaks service for up to four children who may have sensory impairments, physical disabilities and/or learning disabilities. Day care for additional children is provided on the same premises.

The manager registered with Ofsted in 2014.

Inspection date: 1 December 2023

This monitoring visit

This visit was undertaken to address specific concerns received by Ofsted.

Leaders have completed a thorough investigation into the concerns raised. The responsible individual has led this process to ensure sufficient scrutiny of staff at all levels in the home. While the concerns were swiftly investigated, the provider did not notify Ofsted of this serious allegation, and the actions proposed.

There have been no restraints used since the last inspection. Incident reports show a variety of support needs that children have. They reflect a range of staff skills and different levels of intervention. The levels of incidents and accidents are monitored by managers.

Most children who receive short breaks in this home have significant medication support needs. There are clear processes in place for signing medication in and out of the service. Parents confirm the medication their children require ahead of each stay. Staff report medication errors that they identify. The manager ensures there are swift investigations into the concerns. Managers identify learning opportunities from investigations. These findings are shared with relevant staff.

Staff receive training to support children with their moving and assisting needs. This includes practical sessions from a specially trained member of staff. Annual reviews

of children's support needs ensure staff use the most appropriate techniques and equipment.

Managers encourage staff to be creative with the activities offered to children and to record these clearly. Some children's records show interesting and varied activities, however some lack detail. Managers have identified the need to develop activities. They are actively meeting with external providers to discuss options to support development of staff skill and confidence.

In the planning for this visit it was identified that the reports from the independent person are not submitted to Ofsted in a timely way. The provider identified they also do not receive these by the dates set by them. The requirements and recommendations from the full inspection have not been considered on this visit.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/07/2023	Full	Good
15/11/2022	Full	Good
20/12/2021	Full	Good
13/08/2019	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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The registered person must— supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality of care review is completed (Regulation 45 (4)(a))	31 August 2023
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(c)(e)) In particular, ensure that Ofsted are notified of serious concerns that are raised in relation to the home.	15 December 2023
The independent person must provide a copy of the independent person's report to— HMCI; the placing authorities of children; the registered provider and, if applicable, the registered manager; and the responsible individual (if one is nominated). (Regulation 44 (7)(a)(c)(d)(e)) In particular, ensure that the independent person provides the report of their visit to the provider and Ofsted in a timely manner.	29 December 2023

The independent person must provide a copy of the independent person's report to—
 HMCI;
 the placing authorities of children;
 the registered provider and, if applicable, the registered manager; and
 the responsible individual (if one is nominated).

(Regulation 44 (7)(a)(c)(d)(e))

In particular, ensure that the independent person provides the report of their visit to the provider and Ofsted in a timely manner.

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that records of supervision are clear and consistent for all staff, and that they reflect the content of the conversations to evidence reflection and staff development. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.2)
- The registered person should review the appropriateness and suitability of the location of the premises used for the purposes of the children's home at least once in each calendar year. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 64, paragraph 15.1)
- The registered person should ensure that, by developing a strong safeguarding culture, if no response is received following a referral to the local authority that this is followed up effectively. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 42, paragraph 9.8)
- The registered person should ensure that they keep the statement of purpose under review and send a copy of the reviewed document to HMCI. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 52, paragraph 10.4)
- The registered person should ensure that any incidents of physical intervention are clearly recorded. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 46, paragraph 9.34)
- The registered person should ensure that any repairs needed in the home are carried out. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)

- The registered person should recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. In particular, that employment references are completed thoroughly. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.1)

Information about this inspection

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC004085

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Diverse Abilities Plus Ltd.

Registered provider address: Barnabas Project Centre, 13-15 Manor Avenue,
POOLE, Dorset, BH12 4LB

Responsible individual: Jonathan Seaward

Registered manager: Amiee Barnett

Inspector

Clare Nixon, social care inspector

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