

SC005042

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The privately owned service is both a children's home and a school that provide care and education for up to 10 young people who have had adverse childhood experiences that have led to associated trauma and presenting complex behaviours. The children's home can accommodate up to 10 young people, with a further two young people accommodated in a second home.

The manager was registered with Ofsted in June 2014 and is appropriately qualified. He is supported by an experienced and qualified deputy manager.

Inspection date: 15 June 2020

This monitoring visit

This monitoring visit follows two significant incidents. Ofsted carried out this inspection remotely to consider the incidents and the subsequent action taken by the provider.

The first incident involved a group of children who were missing from the home overnight. Children rarely go missing from this home. The registered manager did not notify Ofsted of this incident. The inspector found that staff responded to the situation by attempting to make phone contact with the children and searching the local area. Staff reported the children missing to the police, but there was a delay. This is not in line with the provider's safeguarding policy. In addition, staff did not inform children's families until the following morning. Staff informed the registered manager of the incident. However, while monitoring the situation he did not instruct staff to follow the safeguarding policy. Earlier reporting to police and families could have resulted in children returning home sooner.

The registered manager maintains up-to-date risk assessments, which detail all known risks for children. However, risk assessments for children who go missing lack specific detail about the steps that staff must follow. This means that staff do not always receive clear guidance about what actions they should take.

The second incident involved serious damage to the home. Children were able to climb onto the roof using scaffolding. This potential hazard was not adequately considered. Children have good relationships with staff who they trust. This helped staff to manage the situation appropriately and encourage children to leave the roof. The registered manager has subsequently implemented additional safety measures in an effort to reduce hazards and safeguard children until the building work is complete.

Children spoke positively about each other and the staff who care for them. They enjoy playing football and watching films all together. Staff spoke highly of their colleagues and feel supported by the registered manager. The registered manager and staff have reflected on these incidents and have started to address the shortfalls identified.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
17/09/2019	Full	Good
30/05/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
04/07/2017	Full	Good
02/02/2017	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

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; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies. (Regulation 12(1)(2)(a)(i)(v)(vii))	30/06/2020
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 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. (Regulation 12(1)(2)(d))	30/06/2020
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— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13(1)(a)(b)(2)(h))	30/06/2020
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious.	30/06/2020

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.

Ofsted is aware of the challenges that COVID-19 (coronavirus) is currently posing to those we regulate. During this visit, the inspectors took into consideration the impact of any measures being taken to slow the spread of COVID-19 by the home. This has included the effect these have had on staffing arrangements.

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

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC005042

Provision sub-type: Residential special school

Responsible individual: Vivien Snape

Registered manager: Justin Pomelli

Inspector

Joanna Warburton, social care inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence>, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: <http://www.gov.uk/ofsted>

© Crown copyright 2020