

SC008488

Registered provider: Halliwell Homes Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common framework

Information about this children's home

This is a private children's home. It is registered to care for up to eight children, who may have a range of social and emotional difficulties. At the time of this monitoring visit, there were six children living in the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in November 2022.

Inspection date: 7 September 2023

This monitoring visit

On 25 and 26 July 2023, Ofsted undertook a full inspection of the home and judged the home inadequate. There were serious and widespread failures that meant children were not protected and their welfare was not promoted or safeguarded. As a result, Ofsted issued a restriction of accommodation notice and compliance notices in relation to regulations 11, 12 and 13.

The purpose of this visit was to review the progress to satisfy the requirements of the compliance notices. This visit identified that leaders and managers have failed to take sufficient action to protect children from harm. As a result, Ofsted has reissued compliance notices in relation to regulation 12, the protection of children standard, and regulation 13, the leadership and management standard. The notice to restrict accommodation remains in place.

Leaders have put in place some new safeguarding systems to support managers and staff to respond to safeguarding concerns. However, the response to a recent safeguarding incident was not effective. This showed that staff do not follow procedures, which may place children at risk of harm. Some challenges remain around maintaining the correct staffing ratios set out in risk assessments.

The manager has put in place a new supervision format which explores staff's understanding of risk to children. However, this format fails to fully explore behaviour management or safeguarding practice.

Staff have completed training specific to children's needs. They undertake a quiz to reinforce learning. However, leaders and managers do not evaluate training. This does not address gaps in learning or staff's misunderstanding of training. This continues to leave children vulnerable from staff who do not fully understand how to manage risk.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/07/2023	Full	Inadequate
24/05/2022	Full	Good
06/12/2021	Interim	Improved effectiveness
14/07/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be 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 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; 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	8 October 2023

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)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(g)(i)(ii)(h))	
*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; manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; 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 effectiveness of the home’s child protection policies is monitored regularly. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(e))	8 October 2023

The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust; 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; 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; 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)(ix)(x))	8 October 2023
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*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that the home is welcoming and nurturing and that it conveys a homely and domestic, rather than institutional, impression. ('Guide to the Children’s Home’s Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)

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: SC008488

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Halliwell Homes Limited

Registered provider address: Pearce House, 80 Cawdor Street, Eccles M30 0QF

Responsible individual: Paul Bliss

Registered manager: Benjamin Williams

Inspectors

Sally Mitchell, Social Care Inspector

Kelly McCurdy, Social Care Inspector

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