

SC008488

Registered provider: Halliwell Homes Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately owned and is registered to provide care for up to eight children who may experience a range of social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the inspection, six children were living in the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in November 2022.

Inspection dates: 10 and 11 October 2023

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	requires improvement to be good
---	--

How well children and young people are helped and protected	requires improvement to be good
---	---------------------------------

The effectiveness of leaders and managers	requires improvement to be good
---	---------------------------------

The children's home is not yet delivering good help and care for children and young people. However, there are no serious or widespread failures that result in their welfare not being safeguarded or promoted.

Date of last inspection: 25 July 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: inadequate

Enforcement action since last inspection:

As a result of significant shortfalls identified at the last full inspection, compliance notices were issued under Regulation 12 (the protection of children standard) and Regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard). In addition, the home was made subject to notice restricting accommodation.

A monitoring visit was carried out on 7 September 2023, and it was concluded that insufficient steps had been taken to fully address the compliance notices. These

notices were therefore reissued, and the notice restricting accommodation remained in place.

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

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: requires improvement to be good

Six children are living in the home, and each child has their own bedroom. Children have the freedom to personalise their bedrooms to their individual tastes.

All children regularly attend school. Children are doing well and are making progress from their starting points. When there are changes to school placements, staff do all that they can to make sure that this is a positive experience for children.

Staff carry out regular direct work with children. However, planned direct work does not always take place. When direct work does take place, records are not detailed and lack curiosity from staff.

The relationships between the staff and children were observed to be positive and caring. Children can identify an adult who they can trust, talk to and have fun with. This helps children to develop a sense of permanence and belonging.

Children's files do not always include the most up-to-date care plans from the local authority. This means that staff are not always fully informed about what the children's plans are. As a result, internal care plans do not contain the most accurate information.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: requires improvement to be good

Staffing ratios for children are now clearly identified in children's support plans. The manager regularly reviews these plans, taking into consideration children's individual needs. As a result, children are now receiving the support they need from staff to keep them safe.

When new staff start, they are not suitably vetted. The registered manager has not scrutinised gaps in employment. As a result, safer recruitment processes are not followed.

Staff only use holds as a last resort to keep children safe. The use of holds is in line with the home's policies and procedures. The recording of restraints has improved since the last inspection. Documents now contain all relevant information. Managers thoroughly review all records. They are reflective, which helps to identify any potential learning outcomes.

The management of risk has improved since the last inspection. The manager has put in place extra documents to support staff when caring for children. These documents are robust and provide clear strategies that help staff to manage and

mitigate risk. The manager ensures that these documents are reviewed and discussed in weekly staff meetings.

The manager ensures that there are arrangements in place to manage medication. However, medication records for some children are not accurate. Arrangements for the storage of medication in the home are not safe and secure.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: requires improvement to be good

The manager's level of oversight in the home has improved and is developing. The manager has put in place new systems and processes. These are having a positive influence on the care provided to children.

All incidents are now reviewed by the managers in the team and an additional review is now carried out by a senior manager. This is supporting the development of the registered manager, who is now more reflective of staff practice.

Training offered to staff has improved since the last inspection. All staff have now received additional training that supports their knowledge and development. As a result, staff are now able to meet children's individual needs.

Staff receive regular supervision in line with the home's statement of purpose. The manager has introduced a new supervision template. Supervision sessions are well planned and structured. Staff now reflect on their practice and the needs of the children.

The manager ensures that plans for each shift are overseen by himself or other managers. These plans identify staffing ratios, along with allocated tasks and responsibilities for staff. As a result, staff are developing a sense of shared ownership regarding their practice.

A case review held on 16 October 2023 concluded that sufficient action has been taken to address the steps in the compliance notices. Furthermore, the notice restricting accommodation has not been restated.

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 within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. In particular the registered person must ensure that— medicines kept in the home are stored in a secure place so as to prevent any child from having unsupervised access to them; medicine which is prescribed for a child is administered as prescribed to the child for whom it is prescribed and to no other child; and a record is kept of the administration of medicine to each child. (Regulation 23 (1) (2)(a)(b)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that medication is securely stored and that systems in place to manage medication are consistently followed by staff and in line with the home's medication policy.	10 November 2023
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home. In particular, the registered person to ensure— that each child's relevant plans are followed; that staff help each child to access and contribute to the records kept by the registered person in relation to the child. (Regulation 14 (1)(a) (2)(c)(f)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that they have accessible copies of children's most up-to-date local authority care plans and any other relevant plans.	10 November 2023

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that planned direct work with children takes place more regularly. Records should also be detailed and clearly evidence professional curiosity from staff. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 16, paragraph 3.14)
- The registered person should ensure that when recruiting staff, gaps in their employment histories are explored and clearly evidenced in the recruitment records. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.5)

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, using the social care common inspection framework. This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'.

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

Kimmy Feeley, Social Care Inspector
Cathy Wilkins, 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 looked after children, 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 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: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023