

SC016600

Bridge Communities Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a private provider and offers care and accommodation for up to five children. The provider states in its statement of purpose that care is provided for children and young people with social, emotional or behavioural difficulties.

There is a registered manager in post.

Inspection date: 4 February 2021

This monitoring visit

This visit was undertaken in response to a call received by Ofsted from a young person living in the home.

This visit was to review the actions the leaders and managers have taken to address the concerns. The visit included the inspector meeting with the young people living in the home. In addition, the inspector remotely reviewed records, consulted with two local authority professionals and interviewed the registered manager.

Four young people are currently living in the home. Two young people told the inspector they no longer trust some staff. They expressed concern that confidential information about their circumstances has been shared unnecessarily among the staff team and with other young people who live in the home. The registered manager has fully accepted the seriousness of this allegation and is undertaking an internal investigation. A local authority designated officer and the local authority social worker are reported as being confident that this issue is being addressed.

Staff members provide the young people with opportunities to discuss their concerns and worries, and records capture kind and sensitive conversations between the young people and staff. Despite this, two young people were extremely negative about the leaders and managers and stated that they do not want to live in the home. The registered manager recognises the importance of rebuilding the

relationships between the young people and the staff team and is working with the local authority social workers to stabilise the placements.

Some of the records scrutinised by the inspector were found to be incomplete and out of date. For example, risk assessments, behaviour management plans and some impact risk assessments are incomplete. There is insufficient evidence of management oversight within some records. The registered manager accepts responsibility for not completing regular and robust monitoring of all records.

The registered manager shares information with all safeguarding partners and social workers. However, on one occasion, the registered manager failed to notify Ofsted of a serious incident.

This visit identified several shortfalls in respect of the leadership and management standard, the positive relationships standard and notifiable events. As a result, three requirements are made.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
30/12/2019	Full	Good
10/09/2019	Full	Inadequate
23/08/2018	Full	Good
29/11/2017	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 within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
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— help each child to develop socially aware behaviour; encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and understanding; communicate to each child expectations about the child's behaviour and ensure that the child understands those expectations in accordance with the child's age and understanding; help each child to understand, in a way that is appropriate according to the child's age and understanding, personal, sexual and social relationships, and how those relationships can be supportive or harmful; strive to gain each child's respect and trust; that each child is encouraged to build and maintain positive relationships with others. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(viii)(b))	31 March 2021

The registered manager must ensure that steps are taken to help two young people feel safe and enjoy living in the home. In addition, ensure that young people are helped to develop trusting and respectful relationships between one another.	
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; 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 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)(f)(g)(i)(h)) The registered manager must monitor and review all records to ensure that they are up to date and accurate, and in doing so help staff to support the young people.	31 March 2021
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. (Regulation 40 (4)(e))	31 March 2021

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken by leaders and managers following concerns that a young person had shared with Ofsted on 3 February 2021.

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

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC016600

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Bridge Communities Limited

Registered provider address: Sutton Dipple, 8 Wheelwrights Corner, Cossack Square, Nailsworth, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL6 0DB

Responsible individual: Joanne Scott

Registered manager: Sarah Womersley

Inspector

Linda Bond, Social Care Inspector

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