

SC030797

Ethelbert Specialist Homes Limited

Monitoring visit

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 nine children who experience social, emotional and mental health difficulties. At the time of this visit, four children were living in the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in April 2016 and is suitably qualified.

Inspection date: 31 October 2023

This monitoring visit

This visit was carried out to monitor the threshold for the notice restricting accommodation that was issued to prevent any further children moving into the home.

Since the last inspection, one child has moved on from the home as part of a planned transition to foster care.

Senior leaders have consulted children to gather their views and have used what they have shared to inform their care planning. This has had a positive impact on the children. For example, one child's wish to explore their religion has been planned appropriately and they are being supported to attend a place of worship.

The registered provider has taken action to review the fire safety risk assessment and address the shortfalls which may have prevented safe evacuation in the event of a fire.

Senior leaders have ensured that staff are supported with regular supervision and appraisals, and records are made to demonstrate formal staff development planning.

Since the last inspection, new members of staff have joined the home. This has reduced the need for other staff and managers to work additional hours. This has provided stability and consistent care for the children.

The registered manager is due to leave the organisation shortly and there is an interim plan to ensure that the home is supported by a senior manager.

The registered provider has ensured that all serious events have been notified to Ofsted as required by regulations.

The registered manager has ensured that children's health plans are updated. He has considered actions set from their local authority review meetings to ensure that children's health and well-being are promoted and they are supported to make progress. However, where plans are not shared in a timely way by the local authority, there has not been appropriate challenge from senior leaders to request these documents.

Records relating to children's medication have been updated to include accurate information, such as children's allergies, and to reflect children's healthcare plans. However, some records of medication administered to children are incomplete and staff have not followed procedure by reporting this to the registered manager to explore.

Since the last inspection, the registered provider has made sufficient progress to meet the requirements raised. Therefore, the notice restricting accommodation is no longer required and will not be reissued.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/09/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
23/05/2023	Full	Inadequate
21/03/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
28/07/2021	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, 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 registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. (Regulation 23 (1)) This specifically relates to ensuring that records of children's medication administration are accurate and that procedures are followed when errors or omissions occur.	31 January 2024

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that the placing authority and other relevant persons are challenged if children are not receiving the input and services needed to meet their needs during their time in the home. This specifically relates to ensuring that reports are shared in a timely way. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 12, paragraph 2.8)

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: SC030797

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Ethelbert Specialist Homes Limited

Registered provider address: Ethelbert Specialist Homes Limited, 17 Leigh Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 5EU

Responsible individual: Leslie Davenport

Registered manager: Sidney Coffin

Inspectors

Sara Stoker, Social Care Inspector
Chelsea Agyeman, Social Care Inspector

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