

SC035387

Stockton on Tees Borough Council

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and operated by a local authority. It provides care for up to five children who may have social and emotional difficulties.

The current manager has been in post since 23 October 2020 and has recently applied to register with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 3 March 2021

This monitoring visit

Ofsted carried out a monitoring visit at this home on 26 January 2021. This was in response to safeguarding concerns and significant failings in the home's leadership and management. Two compliance notices were issued following this monitoring visit. These were with regard to failing to manage and reduce risks to children's safety and failing to provide effective and consistent care for children. A further two requirements were made with regard to planning new admissions to the home and to ensuring that the manager applied to register with Ofsted.

The purpose of this monitoring visit was to review the progress made to address these practice shortfalls. This visit comprised both on- and off-site inspection activities, including discussions with children and staff and the review of children's case records.

Children's individual risk assessments now include actions for staff to follow to manage and reduce risks to children's safety. This improvement means that staff better understand their responsibilities for protecting children from harm. This means that there has been a reduction in safeguarding incidents since the last monitoring visit. Consequently, children feel safer living in the home.

Leaders and managers have reviewed the procedure for completing impact risk assessments. These risk assessments now take account of the impact that children's

individual risks may have on their peers. As a result, children moving into the home are better matched with the children already living there. These considerations increase the likelihood of children successfully living together and forming positive relationships with each other.

Staff have now completed relevant training to help them to understand how children's previous trauma may influence their actions and behaviours. As a result, the staff have the knowledge they need to meet the children's needs. This means that children benefit from consistent care and support.

Leadership and management arrangements have been formalised to provide consistent management and oversight of the home. The manager has now submitted an application to register with Ofsted. She has increased staffing levels to better reflect children's needs. Furthermore, the manager ensures that these additional staff are already known to the children. Consequently, children receive care from staff who they know and who know their needs.

Leaders and managers have taken sufficient action to address the shortfalls raised at the last monitoring visit.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/02/2020	Full	Good
26/11/2018	Full	Good
30/05/2017	Full	Good
31/08/2016	Full	Good

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: SC035387

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Stockton on Tees Borough Council

Registered provider address: Municipal Buildings, Church Road, Stockton on Tees, Cleveland TS18 1LD

Responsible individual: Rhona Bollands

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Debbie White, Social Care Inspector

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