

Kyloe House

Registered provider: Northumberland County Council, Netherton Park Children's Home, Stannington, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 6DE

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this secure children's home

This home is operated by a local authority and is approved by the Secretary of State to restrict children's liberty.

The home provides care for up to 15 children aged between 10 and 17 years under Section 25 of the Children Act 1989 who are placed by local authorities.

The admission of any child under Section 25 of the Children Act 1989 who is under 13 years of age requires the approval of the Secretary of State.

The commissioning of health services in this home is the statutory responsibility of NHS England under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Education is provided on site in dedicated facilities.

The manager registered with Ofsted on 30 January 2012.

Inspection date: 3 April 2025

This monitoring visit

This visit was carried out in response to concerns regarding the care children receive and the use and proportionality of physical restraint. The inspector spoke with the registered manager, care staff, the healthcare team and a child's social worker and reviewed relevant documentation, including incident reports, children's risk assessments, and reports by an independent visitor.

Physical restraint is used in an appropriate and proportionate manner. Records of these incidents are detailed and involve internal managers and senior leaders in the local authority. This adds an additional layer of scrutiny and accountability. This

analysis identifies positive practice and any areas for improvement. Children's views of any incidents are recorded by children themselves or by staff supporting them. Health professionals see children as soon as possible following each incident and escalate any practice concerns noted and any injuries to children.

Children's risk assessments set out their needs and specific steps for staff to follow to help keep them safe. These documents are regularly reviewed to ensure that they are up to date and include all relevant information, including changes to children's behaviours, their progress and any new risks to their safety. This includes oversight by a multidisciplinary team. Risk assessments sometimes include restrictions on items a child can have to help keep them safe. Leaders and managers continually review these documents to ensure that they are not more restrictive than necessary.

The independent visitor reports lack effective evaluation regarding the quality of care children receive. This does not help the registered manager or other leaders to understand children's day-to-day experiences or identify areas for improvement. For example, reports for January and February 2025 reference the suitability of staff accommodation, list incidents of physical restraint, managing away and single separation, and reference that staff supervision has taken place. These factual statements do not reflect the visitor's assessment of practice across the home or the impact of this on children's progress.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/09/2024	Full	Good
28/11/2023	Full	Good
01/11/2022	Full	Outstanding
01/03/2022	Full	Good

What does the secure children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered persons 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 persons must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The independent person must produce a report about a visit ("the independent person's report") which sets out, in particular, the independent person's opinion as to whether— children are effectively safeguarded; and the conduct of the home promotes children's well-being. (Regulation 44(4)(a)(b)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that the independent visitor's reports include an evaluation of their assessment of the safety and well-being of children, as well as the suitability of practice in the home.	30 May 2025

Information about this inspection

This visit was carried out because Ofsted received an anonymous point in time survey from a child living at the home raising concerns about their care.

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

Secure children's home details

Unique reference number: SC035409

Provision sub-type: Secure unit

Registered provider: Northumberland County Council

Registered provider address: County Hall, Morpeth NE61 2EF

Responsible individual: Adam Hall

Registered manager: Julie Tinkler

Inspector

Shaun Common, His Majesty's Inspector

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