

SC035687

Hesley Services Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a residential special school that is owned and managed by a private company. It is registered as a children's home and offers care for up to six children with learning disabilities and/or complex needs, including behaviour that may be challenging.

The manager registered with Ofsted in June 2018. However, they are not currently in day-to-day charge of the operation of this provision.

The inspectors were aware during this inspection that serious child protection allegations were being investigated by the appropriate authorities.

Inspection date: 22 November 2021

This monitoring visit

A monitoring visit was undertaken on 2 March 2021. This visit identified significant failings in the management and leadership arrangements of the home, and in the employment of staff. Ofsted issued compliance notices under regulation 13 and 33 of The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015.

An assurance visit was conducted on 18 and 19 March 2021. This visit identified further breaches of regulations that were having a detrimental impact on the care and protection that children received. During this visit, the inspectors found serious inadequacies in the recruitment, induction and ongoing supervision and development of staff. Due to these significant failings, Ofsted served an emergency suspension notice on 19 March 2021. The report is published on the Ofsted website.

A monitoring visit was carried out on 5 May 2021. Ofsted found that the provider had made some progress. However, the inspector found that the provider had not met all of the steps identified in the compliance notices. Two further compliance notices under regulation 13 and 33 were issued.

On 9 June 2021, a further monitoring visit was conducted. The inspector found that the provider had met both the compliance notices. However, Ofsted issued a further emergency suspension notice. This notice was issued because the provider had failed to demonstrate, through their action plan, that they had made sufficient progress in order to safeguard children effectively.

A further monitoring visit was conducted on 20 July 2021. Ofsted found that the provider had made some progress. However, the inspector found that the provider had not secured sufficient staffing arrangements and that refurbishment of the home was not complete. The suspension notice remained in place.

A further monitoring visit was completed on 23 August 2021 to monitor the provider's compliance with the suspension notice and the progress made to meet the previously issued requirements.

The provider had complied with the suspension notice. A tour of the home confirmed there were no children living in any of the homes that are linked to this registration. Refurbishment of the home was not complete. Therefore, the home was not suitable to accommodate children.

The interim manager, supported by the interim responsible individual, had been implementing the provider's action plan. However, a significant proportion of the actions were incomplete. The inspectors also found additional serious safeguarding concerns and the provider had not considered the potential risks to children or made any arrangements to reduce these potential risks.

The requirements previously issued under regulations 9, 12, 16, 26, 28, 33 and 35 were not met and were reissued. A further requirement was issued under regulation 32 in relation to the staff recruitment processes.

On 3 September 2021 a further suspension notice was issued because there continued to be a risk of harm to children.

A further monitoring visit was completed on 14 October 2021, to monitor the provider's compliance with the suspension notice. The provider had complied with the suspension notice. A tour of the home confirmed that the home had been refurbished. However, as the serious child protection allegations were still being investigated by the appropriate authorities, the suspension notice remained in place.

This monitoring visit was conducted off site. This visit was carried out to monitor the provider's compliance with the suspension notice, and to monitor its progress in meeting the previously issued requirements. During the off-site visit, the provider stated that it wished to make an application to Ofsted to voluntarily cancel the registration of this children's home, and another one of its registered provisions. Therefore, the previously issued requirements were not considered during this monitoring visit.

Ofsted received the provider's request to voluntarily cancel its registrations in writing on 22 November 2021.

During a case review on 24 November 2021, Ofsted agreed to accept the provider's request to cancel the registration of this home, and another one of its registered provisions with immediate effect.

Serious child protection allegations continue to be investigated by the appropriate authorities.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/11/2019	Full	Good
28/11/2018	Full	Good
12/12/2017	Full	Good
28/02/2017	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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 enjoyment and achievement standard is that children take part in and benefit from a variety of activities that meet their needs and develop and reflect their creative, cultural, intellectual, physical and social interests and skills. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff help each child to— develop the child's interests and hobbies; participate in activities that the child enjoys and which meet and expand the child's interests and preferences; and make a positive contribution to the home and the wider community; and that each child has access to a range of activities that enable the child to pursue the child's interests and hobbies. (Regulation 9 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(b))	30 November 2021
The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm;	30 November 2021

understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm; that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health; and that the effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(d)(e))	
The registered person must compile in relation to the children's home a statement ("the statement of purpose") which covers the matters listed in Schedule 1. Subject to paragraph (6), the registered person must ensure that the home is at all times conducted in a manner which is consistent with its statement of purpose. (Regulation 16 (1) (5))	30 November 2021
An individual may only carry on a children's home if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (5). A responsible individual must— have the capacity, experience and skills to supervise the management of the home, or the homes, in respect of which the responsible individual is nominated. (Regulation 26 (1) (7)(b))	30 November 2021
A person may only manage a children's home if— the person is of integrity and good character; having regard to the size of the home, its statement of purpose, and the number and needs (including any needs arising from any disability) of the children—	30 November 2021

the person has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills to manage the home effectively and lead the care of children. (Regulation 28 (1)(a)(b)(i)) This specifically relates to the registered manager's capacity and skills to manage the home effectively.	
The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. The requirements are that— full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. (Regulation 32 (1) (3)(d))	30 November 2021
The registered person must— ensure that each employee completes an appropriate induction. The registered person must ensure that all employees— undertake appropriate continuing professional development; and receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33 (1)(a) (4)(a)(b))	30 November 2021
The registered person must ensure that— within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes— a description of any injury to the child or any other person, and any medical treatment administered, as a result of the measure; within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person")— has spoken to the user about the measure; and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record	30 November 2021

confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(viii)(b)(i)(ii)(c))	
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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: SC035687

Provision sub-type: Residential special school

Registered provider: Hesley Services Limited

Registered provider address: Hesley Hall Coach House, Hesley, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN11 9HH

Responsible individual: Susan McLean

Registered manager: Deborah Smith

Inspectors

Paula Kelly, Social Care Inspector

Joanna Warburton, Social Care Inspector

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