

SC038435

Sunfield Children's Homes Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This service is a children's home registered with Ofsted. It is also a residential special school registered by the Department of Education. Since May 2017 it has become a subsidiary of the Ruskin Mill Trust. The home is registered to accommodate 61 children who have severe and complex learning difficulties and behavioural needs, including seven placements for children who require short breaks. There are 12 houses within the grounds of the school. At the time of this inspection, six homes were open and accommodating 17 children.

Inspection date: 7 February 2018

This monitoring visit

A monitoring inspection was carried out on 5 December 2017. As a result of this inspection, a compliance notice was issued due to ongoing weaknesses in the administration of medication. The purpose of this inspection was to ascertain if the compliance notice had been met.

This inspection found that the arrangements for the safe administration of medication have improved and the compliance notice has been met.

The providers has taken the following steps to improve practice:

- Staff have undertaken medication training. The training course covered the safe handling and administration of medication and how to keep accurate medication records. Furthermore, it provided staff with an understanding of what different medications are prescribed for and how they work. There is further training planned to ensure that staff keep up to date with the required skills and knowledge to administer medication to young people safely.
- The provider has commissioned a nurse to help oversee and monitor medication. She has visited the home on three occasions and moving forward

she will visit the home monthly. The nurse has helped to train staff, undertaken observations of staff and reviewed the medication policy and procedures.

- Staff have streamlined files and have been involved in devising a new recording system, which is user friendly.
- There is a new auditing system. This involves medication audits taking place several times a day.

As a result of these improvements, staff are beginning to feel more confident in their practice. Consequently, arrangements for administering and recording medication are safer. This promotes young people's health and welfare. Managers and staff understand that it will take time to fully embed these improvements.

In February 2018, Ofsted received anonymous concerns about the home. These were looked into at this visit and no regulatory breaches were found. However, inspectors identified that previously there have been delays in carrying out investigations into allegations. Action has since been taken to improve responses to safeguarding concerns.

This monitoring visit did not cover all of the requirements raised at the last inspection. This will be revisited during the full inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
26/09/2017	Full	Requires improvement to be good
12/06/2017	Full	Inadequate
22/02/2017	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
11/05/2016	Full	Requires improvement

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: SC038435

Provision sub-type: Residential special school

Registered provider: Sunfield Children's Homes Limited

Registered provider address: Clent Grove, Clent, Stourbridge, Worcestershire
DY9 9PB

Responsible individual: Graeme Cheyne

Registered manager: Post Vacant

Inspector(s)

Louise Battersby, social care inspector
Mrs Young, social care inspector

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