

SC039087

Registered provider: Care Afloat Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This service is owned by a private organisation and provides care for one child.

Care is provided on a narrowboat which travels the canal network. The organisation offers an education service and therapeutic support from an external contractor.

The service is run by an experienced and qualified manager who has been registered with Ofsted since 2017.

Due to COVID-19, at the request of the Secretary of State, we suspended all routine inspections of social care providers carried out under the social care common inspection framework (SCCIF) on 17 March 2020. We returned to routine SCCIF inspections on 12 April 2021.

Inspection date: 22 February 2022

This monitoring visit

No children have lived on the narrowboat since the provider took the decision to temporarily close the service in December 2021. This decision was in response to the need to maintain staffing levels in other parts of the organisation.

The provider has notified Ofsted in good time of the intention to reopen this service. The purpose of this visit was to ensure that the narrowboat is ready to accommodate children.

The manager and staff, all of whom are experienced and qualified, have returned to their substantive posts on the narrowboat. A new member of staff has been recruited, making the team complete.

No changes have been made to the accommodation, which is well maintained, cosy and fit for purpose.

One requirement and one recommendation was made at the last full inspection on 9 March 2020. These have not been considered as part of this visit.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/03/2020	Full	Good
08/01/2019	Full	Good
07/11/2017	Full	Good
05/01/2017	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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

Statutory requirement

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 leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (2)(f))	30 April 2020

Recommendation

- Staff should be familiar with the home's policies on record-keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective, and clear recording. Staff should record information on individual children in a non-stigmatising way that distinguishes between fact, opinion and third-party information. Information about the child must always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

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: SC039087

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Care Afloat Limited

Registered provider address: 158-160 Birkrig, Digmoor Parade, Skelmersdale
WN8 9HP

Responsible individual: Michael Fletcher

Registered manager: Claire Russell

Inspector

Paul Scott, Social Care Inspector

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