

SC044224

Registered provider: Progress Care and Education Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is operated by a private organisation and provides care for up to four children with learning disabilities.

Since the last inspection, the registered manager has left and there is an interim manager in post.

At the time of this inspection, two children were living at the home.

Inspection date: 7 January 2025

Date of last inspection: 16 April 2024

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector has looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Since the last inspection, children have been assessed by an independent speech and language therapy team. The assessment reports provide guidance to staff and identify the most appropriate communication aids for children.

Leaders and managers have identified training to support staff in using the recommended aids and guidance from the therapist to improve children's care. Staff are working with speech therapists and teachers to ensure that communication is consistent in all areas of the children's lives.

Children's behaviour support plans and risk assessments contain detailed strategies for staff to follow in practice, but these assessments do not consider each child's individual communication needs. Leaders and managers have a plan to review all incidents to ensure that staff are following the recommendations set out in the children's speech and language assessment reports. This will improve practice.

When children are held, the manager and responsible individual review and evaluate physical intervention and incident records. Debriefs take place with the staff involved in incidents and learning is shared and put into practice. Debriefs for children are observational and carried out by a member of staff who was not involved in the incident. However, there are missed opportunities to ensure that all children have the chance to communicate their emotions following a restraint.

The manager uses a variety of audit tools to monitor practice in the home. The audits are reviewed by the responsible individual, and they capture the details of events and provide some analysis and evaluation. However, further work is required to embed the learning from audits into practice.

Staff have attained or are making progress towards attaining the relevant qualification. The deputy manager oversees the progress of staff and ensures that any delays in practice are addressed.

All staff, including the manager, receive regular supervision. All those responsible for supervision have received refresher training. Leaders and managers recognise that reflection during supervision remains an area for development and have identified how practice can be improved.

Appraisals have been carried out for all staff. Appraisals are reflective about the previous year and aspirational about the upcoming year. Feedback from parents and professionals is now included in the appraisal process. However, feedback from children is not evident, which the manager plans to review in line with the recommendations identified in the speech and language reports.

The registered manager ensures that the statement of purpose is updated when changes occur. The statement of purpose is sent to Ofsted in line with regulation. This means that the regulator is kept updated about any changes in relation to the home.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/04/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
22/08/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
11/05/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
15/03/2022	Full	Inadequate

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, The 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— 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; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(f)(h)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that any actions resulting from audits and reviews are carried out and the impact of these on care provided is documented.	31 January 2025
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;	31 January 2025

help each child to understand how to keep safe. (Regulation 12 (1)(2)(a)(i)(ii)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that risk assessments take account of children's individual needs. Additionally, ensure that all risk assessments contain clear steps for staff to follow should an incident occur. These should take account of children's individual communication needs.	
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— the name of the person who used the measure ("the user"), and of any other person present when the measure was used; 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")— within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(vi)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that children have an opportunity to communicate their emotions following any restraint. Additionally, ensure that all restraints and consequences are evaluated to determine their effectiveness and ensure that any learning is put into practice.	31 January 2025
For the purposes of paragraph (3)(b), an individual who works in the home in a care role has the appropriate qualification if, by the relevant date, the individual has attained— the Level 3 Diploma for Residential Childcare (England) ("the Level 3 Diploma"); or a qualification which the registered person considers to be equivalent to the Level 3 Diploma.	31 March 2025

The relevant date is— in the case of an individual who starts working in a care role in a home after 1st April 2014, the date which falls 2 years after the date on which the individual started working in a care role in a home; or in the case of an individual who was working in a care role in a home on 1st April 2014, 1st April 2016. The registered person may defer the relevant date if the individual— does not work, or has not worked, in a care role in a home for a prolonged period; or works, or has worked, in a care role in a home on a part-time basis. (Regulation 32 (4)(a)(b) (5)(a)(b) (6)(a)(b))	
The children's views, wishes and feelings standard is that children receive care from staff who— engage with them; and take their views, wishes and feelings into account in relation to matters affecting the children's care and welfare and their lives. (Regulation 7 (1)(b)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that children can contribute their wishes and feelings about their care.	31 January 2025

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC044224

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Progress Care and Education Limited

Registered provider address: 2 Barton Close, Grove Park, Enderby, Leicester
LE19 1SJ

Responsible individual: Grace Cookson

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Sarah Jackson, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
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M1 2WD

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