

SC061005

Registered provider: City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and managed by a local authority. It is registered to provide care for up to five children who may have social and emotional difficulties. There were five children living in the home at the time of the inspection.

The manager registered with Ofsted in May 2022.

Inspection date: 23 March 2023

This monitoring visit

This children's home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 31 January and 1 February 2023. A case review on 6 February 2023 agreed that no compliance notices would be issued; however, requirements were made under regulations 11, 12, 13, 20 and 35.

This monitoring visit was carried out to review the provider's response to meeting the requirements.

During this visit, Ofsted identified that the manager has taken steps to address the shortfalls and that the requirements have been met.

The staff team has completed bespoke training that has refreshed its knowledge of the preferred model of care. This means that staff are more confident in how to use their skills to de-escalate situations. Staff speak positively of the benefit of the training and how their confidence in using their skills to help children to cope with difficult emotions has increased.

Physical intervention has not been used since the last inspection. The manager has used team meetings and supervision sessions as opportunities to provide guidance

and direction to staff about the proportionate use of holds and the recording of restraint incidents, in line with the regulations.

The manager has introduced a new way of reviewing children's plans. All staff are now consulted when considering how best to meet each child's changing needs. It is too early to properly evaluate the impact on children. However, this process has the potential to strengthen staff's shared understanding of each child. The manager has taken steps to ensure that all the information that staff need to support children is easy to locate.

Changes have been made to the fabric of the building, and the process for undertaking regular safety checks has been strengthened. This means that residual hazards that relate to the children's needs and risks of harming themselves have been removed. For example, pull cord light switches have been removed. Redecoration of all of the children's rooms has been completed, and other areas of the home have been refreshed. The staff have worked with the children to create a welcoming environment.

The recording of any injuries to a child is now more detailed, and information is shared with relevant professionals in line with good practice. The manager has provided support and feedback to staff, ensuring that documentation is completed to the expected standards.

One child enjoys engaging in boisterous play with staff. On some occasions, this has led to concerns being raised about the appropriateness of the play, as the child has had minor marks. The manager has taken steps to ensure that safeguarding procedures are followed while supporting staff to adjust the style of physical play to avoid any potential for the child to be hurt. However, the recording of such events is inconsistent and weakens the manager's ability to evidence that all the necessary actions have been taken to promote a strong safeguarding process.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
31/01/2023	Full	Inadequate
11/01/2022	Full	Good
18/05/2021	Full	Inadequate
25/02/2020	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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

Recommendation

- The registered person should strengthen the systems for recording practice discussions with staff that take place outside of formal supervision sessions. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.3)

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: SC061005

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Registered provider address: City Hall, Centenary Square, Bradford BD1 1HY

Responsible individual: Picklu Roychoudhury

Registered manager: Laura Bennett

Inspectors

Laura Grundy, Social Care Inspector

Aaron Mcloughlin, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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