

SC065535

Registered provider: S P Homes Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run home provides care for up to six children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The home registered with Ofsted on 30 September 2005. The home has not had a registered manager since 11 August 2022.

The current manager has been in post since 26 January 2023.

Inspection date: 27 June 2023

This monitoring visit

The home was judged as inadequate at the full inspection on 9 and 10 May 2023. Due to the serious shortfalls found at the inspection in help and protection and with leadership and management, a restriction of accommodation notice was served on the provider.

This monitoring visit was conducted on 27 June 2023 to monitor the provider's compliance with the restriction of accommodation notice and any progress made since the full inspection.

At the time of this monitoring visit, there were two children living in the home. The home is complying with the restriction of accommodation notice, and there have been no new admissions.

There continue to be gaps in the training undertaken by staff to ensure that they have the necessary knowledge, experience and skills to meet the needs of the children in their care. However, staff have now completed restraint training and mandatory safeguarding training.

Daily room checks now take place regularly. However, the children's understanding and the process for staff remain unclear.

Risk assessments are up to date and demonstrate some improvement in quality. There have been no significant incidents of harm. There has been one missing-from-home incident, which was managed appropriately.

In response to the risks identified for children, there have been appropriate and targeted key-work sessions to address the concerns, such as substance misuse, children going missing from home and exploitation. Furthermore, the child and professional network participate in discussions about risk.

The use of consequences is proportionate. Children understand why consequences are in place. Disagreements between children are addressed appropriately.

Children's bedrooms are personalised with photos and pictures on the walls, and they have appropriate furniture and bedding. Children are encouraged to keep their bedrooms clean and tidy. All of the requirements raised at the last inspection were not fully considered at this monitoring visit and will be considered at the next full inspection.

The provider has made some progress in addressing the shortfalls identified at the last inspection and has complied with the restriction of accommodation notice. However, further improvement is required, and the improvements need to be embedded and sustained before more children move into the home. Therefore, the restriction of accommodation notice will remain in place.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/05/2023	Full	Inadequate
27/04/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
14/06/2021	Full	Good
04/06/2019	Full	Requires improvement to be good

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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans; understand the barriers to learning that each child may face and take appropriate action to help the child to overcome any such barriers; help each child to understand the importance and value of education, learning, training and employment. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(iv)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff have the skills and strategies to motivate children to attend and engage with their education provision. This requirement is restated.	25 July 2023
The health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met; children are helped to lead healthy lifestyles. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff help each child to—	25 July 2023

achieve the health and well-being outcomes that are recorded in the child's relevant plans; understand and develop skills to promote the child's well-being. (Regulation 10 (1)(a)(c) (2)(a)(i)(iv)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff have the knowledge and skills to meet the health needs of all children living in the home. This requirement is restated.	
The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust; an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and positive responses to other children and adults. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— meet each child's behavioural and emotional needs, as set out in the child's relevant plans; help each child to develop socially aware behaviour; encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and understanding; communicate to each child expectations about the child's behaviour and ensure that the child understands those expectations in accordance with the child's age and understanding; help each child to understand, in a way that is appropriate according to the child's age and understanding, personal, sexual and social relationships, and how those relationships can be supportive or harmful;	25 July 2023

help each child to develop the understanding and skills to recognise or withdraw from a damaging, exploitative or harmful relationship; strive to gain each child's respect and trust; understand how children's previous experiences and present emotions can be communicated through behaviour and have the competence and skills to interpret these and develop positive relationships with children. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii)(ix)) In particular, leaders and managers must ensure that staff foster positive relationships with children that are based on respect and trust. Staff must consistently promote the home's routines, boundaries and expectations and help children to understand and adhere to them.	
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; help each child to understand how to keep safe; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; 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;	25 July 2023

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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)) In particular, leaders, managers and staff must be alert to risk and take swift, effective and consistent action when there are concerns about a child's welfare and safety. Risk assessments must be kept up to date and followed consistently. This requirement is restated.	
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— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; 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)(a)(c)(f)(h)) In particular, leaders and managers must have effective systems in place that ensure that they have strong oversight of the quality of care and protection provided in the home. Any shortfalls must be swiftly identified and addressed and improvements should be sustained. This requirement is restated.	25 July 2023

The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that arrangements are in place to— manage and review the placement of each child in the home; that the child's placing authority is contacted, and a review of that child's relevant plans is requested, if— the registered person considers that the child is at risk of harm or has concerns that the care provided for the child is inadequate to meet the child's needs; the child is, or has been, persistently absent from the home without permission. (Regulation 14 (1)(a) (2)(b)(ii)(e)(i)(ii)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that a child's placing authority is contacted when the risk of harm has increased, for example frequent absence from the home without permission and returning home with expensive items.	25 July 2023
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. The registered person must— keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16 (1) (3)(a)(b))	25 July 2023
The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. In particular the registered person must ensure that—	25 July 2023

medicine which is prescribed for a child is administered as prescribed to the child for whom it is prescribed and to no other child; and a record is kept of the administration of medicine to each child. (Regulation 23 (1) (2)(b)(c))	
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— the person has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills to manage the home effectively and lead the care of children; and the person is physically and mentally fit to manage the home; and full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the person in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. (Regulation 28 (1)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that the manager applies to register with Ofsted so that their suitability for registration can be assessed.	25 July 2023
The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. The requirements are that— the individual has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills for the work that the individual is to perform. (Regulation 32 (1) (3)(b)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff undertake appropriate training to meet the needs of the children living in the home.	25 July 2023
The registered person must prepare and implement a policy which—	25 July 2023

is intended to safeguard children accommodated in the children's home from abuse or neglect; and sets out the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation of abuse or neglect. The procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation of abuse or neglect must, in particular— provide for liaison and co-operation with any local authority which are, or may be, making a child protection enquiry in relation to a child accommodated in the home; provide for the prompt referral of an allegation about current or ongoing abuse or neglect in relation to a child to the placing authority and, if different, the local authority in whose area the home is located; provide for the prompt referral of an allegation about past abuse or neglect in relation to a child to the placing authority and, if different, the local authority in whose area the alleged abuse or neglect occurred; provide for records to be kept of an allegation of abuse or neglect, and the action taken in response; describe the measures which may be necessary to protect children following an allegation of abuse or neglect; and describe how and to whom staff are to report, without delay, any concern about abuse or neglect of a child. (Regulation 34 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff, including the manager, follow the home's safeguarding policy and procedures consistently.	
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 child; details of the child's behaviour leading to the use of the measure;	25 July 2023

the date, time and location of the use of the measure; a description of the measure and its duration; details of any methods used, or steps taken to avoid the need to use the measure; the name of the person who used the measure ("the user"), and of any other person present when the measure was used; the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; and 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 confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii)(b)(i)(ii)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that there is a record kept of any measure of restraint relating to children living in the home.	
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation; there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(a)(e))	25 July 2023

The registered person must ensure that an independent person visits the children's home at least once each month. The independent person must produce a report about a visit ("the independent person's report") which sets out, in particular, the independent person's opinion as to whether— children are effectively safeguarded; and the conduct of the home promotes children's well-being. The independent person must provide a copy of the independent person's report to— HMCI. (Regulation 44 (1) (4)(a)(b) (7)(a))	25 July 2023
The registered person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children ("a quality of care review") at least once every 6 months. After completing a quality of care review, the registered person must produce a written report about the quality of care review and the actions which the registered person intends to take as a result of the quality of care review ("the quality of care review report"). The registered person must— supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality of care review is completed. (Regulation 45 (1) (3) (4)(a))	25 July 2023

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: SC065535

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: S P Homes Limited

Registered provider address: 163 Manor Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 1JT

Responsible individual: Sarra Pond

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Amanda Burrows, Social Care Inspector

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