

SC068803

Registered provider: Ethelbert Specialist Homes Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A private organisation owns and runs the home. It provides care for up to four children with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties.

There has been no registered manager since July 2022.

Inspection date: 15 February 2023

This monitoring visit

This monitoring visit was conducted to look at the progress the provider has made in relation to the compliance notice that was reissued to the provider under regulation 11, the positive relationships standard, following an assurance inspection carried out on 28 December 2022.

Since the last inspection, there has been a significant decrease in incidents of bullying in the home, and children reflect they can see changes in their relationships with other children in the home.

However, a decision has been made to end a child's placement due to the inability of staff to help this child change their behaviour towards other children within the home.

Action taken by staff when bullying occurs is clearly recorded and demonstrates how such issues are addressed. Any shortfalls in staff records and actions are picked up in the manager's monitoring, and staff reflected on this when spoken to.

The staff spent time with all the children reflecting on kindness and the effects of bullying. This includes the children relating their own emotions to this and what healthy relationships should be. Incidents have declined, which demonstrates that these discussions have been effective.

Staff can demonstrate that effective action is taken when children may be at risk. For example, when children have gone missing from the home, the quick actions of staff led to children being swiftly found and returned to the home safely. This has been followed by a review of children's plans to ensure that new risks are mitigated and there is guidance for staff.

There has been an improvement in how staff use consequences to support children's behaviours. Where shortfalls are identified, the manager has recognised this in monitoring and reflected with staff and children to provide learning opportunities to ensure that consequences are proportionate and fair.

Therefore, the compliance notice is met, along with the requirements and recommendations from the previous inspection. A recommendation has been made to review how practice is embedded at the next inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/06/2022	Full	Good
11/05/2021	Full	Good
18/02/2020	Full	Outstanding
05/03/2019	Full	Good

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

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that procedures for dealing with allegations of bullying are embedded in staff practice, and that staff can demonstrate they have the skills required to intervene, protect and address bullying behaviours effectively. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 39, paragraph 8.16)

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: SC068803

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Ethelbert Specialist Homes Limited

Registered provider address: Ethelbert Specialist Homes Limited, 17 Leigh Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 5EU

Responsible individual: Leslie Davenport

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Sara Stoker, Social Care Inspector

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