

SC366343

Registered provider: Maple Leaf Care Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a private company and provides care for up to four children with social and emotional difficulties.

The home is managed by an experienced and qualified manager who has been registered since October 2015.

Inspection date: 28 April 2022

This monitoring visit

This on-site visit was carried out in response to a complaint received by Ofsted. The complaint raised serious safeguarding concerns relating to risk management.

Staff failed to take effective action when a child was known to have taken an overdose of prescribed medication. Medical advice was sought but not followed. This resulted in a delay of almost 12 hours before the child was seen by a qualified medical practitioner. Staff did provide high levels of monitoring and emotional support during this period. However, although the child was not harmed physically, the potential for harm could have been serious.

The manager and staff recognise the significance of this serious error and take full responsibility for their actions. They have reflected on the incident and demonstrate good learning in this respect.

Led by a qualified mental health practitioner, a full review of the child's risk assessment and safety plan has taken place. The amendments made to these plans make it clear what action staff should take if any similar concerns emerge in the future. The registered manager must ensure that these plans are understood and implemented by staff.

One requirement relating to visits by an independent person and three recommendations from the last inspection have not been considered at this visit.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/02/2022	Full	Outstanding
16/01/2020	Full	Outstanding
23/10/2018	Full	Outstanding
22/11/2017	Full	Outstanding

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 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; 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; and take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(v)(vi))	26 May 2022
When the independent person is carrying out a visit, the registered person must help the independent person— if they consent, to interview in private such of the children, their parents, relatives and persons working at the home as the independent person requires. (Regulation 44 (2)(a))	17 February 2022

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff follow the child's risk assessment when children return home under the influence of alcohol or drugs. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 42, paragraph 9.5)

- The registered person should ensure that all staff complete training in child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 52, paragraph 10.5)
- The registered person should ensure that Ofsted are notified of any significant events without delay. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 63, paragraph 14.13)

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: SC366343

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Maple Leaf Care Limited

Registered provider address: 16a Regent Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 1RP

Responsible individual: Nicola Higham

Registered manager: Susan Murfitt

Inspector

Paul Scott, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022