

# SC387148

Registered provider: Fairfield Residential Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

The provider states in their statement of purpose that this home provides care for up to five children with learning disabilities and/or autistic spectrum disorder. The home is run by a private company and provides education on site at a registered school. The inspector only inspected the social care provision at this school.

The manager has been registered since December 2015.

**Inspection date: 29 March 2022**

**Date of last inspection:** 7 December 2021

**Judgement at last inspection:** requires improvement to be good

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## **This inspection**

### **The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection**

This home was judged requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judged that it has improved effectiveness.

Children are making progress. Staff are now using communication methods as advised in each child's education, health and care plan more consistently. One child's social worker said, '[Name of child] has made huge progress with using her Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS). Staff have been supporting this and really seem to understand her needs.'

All children are now able to enjoy activities in the community. Regular multi-agency meetings are now taking place to improve communication and avoid delays in decision-making. As a result, one child who was previously unable to go out in the community, has been able to safely go out with staff support. This has also had a positive impact on his mental health. An independent advocate has also been sourced.

Risk management plans provide staff with clear steps to take. This means that staff are more likely to work consistently. Additional information has been included to guide staff on when they should seek an opinion from a medically trained professional. This is particularly important due to the children's health needs, along with the fact that four of the five children are non-verbal, therefore not all children can express when they are hurt.

Health plans still do not include all the children's health needs. Additional plans have been written to accompany the health plans; however, information has not always been updated consistently. For example, one child's document advises that occupational health apparatus is used for 15 minutes a day, while another document states 30 minutes a day. This has the potential for confusion and inconsistent staff practice.

Mechanical restraint is now being recorded in line with regulation. However, the manager has not reviewed the records. This is particularly important for one child, as previous concerns around the effectiveness of a walking harness meant they were unable to access the community.

The manager's monitoring systems have been redesigned. The manager is beginning to increase her oversight of the staff's training needs and staff supervisions. Staff have received a range of training since the full inspection. This will help them to meet the needs of the children.

The manager has also begun to collect feedback. A range of questionnaires have been used to seek feedback from children, parents, families, staff and external

professionals. To date, limited feedback has been received, but the manager is reviewing the methods used to ensure that feedback can guide the service.

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement            |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 07/12/2021      | Full            | Requires improvement to be good |
| 22/05/2019      | Full            | Requires improvement to be good |
| 14/03/2019      | Interim         | Sustained effectiveness         |
| 09/04/2018      | Full            | 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 within the given timescales.

| Requirement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Due date    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <p>The registered person must ensure that—</p> <p>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—</p> <p>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")—</p> <p>has spoken to the user about the measure; and</p> <p>has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and</p> <p>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)(b)(i)(ii))</p> <p>This relates specifically to the manager reviewing records of mechanical restraint and evaluating their effectiveness.</p> | 15 May 2022 |

### Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that children's care plans include all information relating to the child's current health needs. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 33, paragraph 7.4)

## **Information about this inspection**

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, using the social care common inspection framework. This 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'.

## Children's home details

**Unique reference number:** SC387148

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** Fairfield Residential Limited

**Registered provider address:** 108 Whitworth Road, Rochdale OL12 0JJ

**Responsible individual:** Kendall Cope

**Registered manager:** Debra McGarrigan

## Inspector

Sylvia Eboigbe, Social Care Inspector

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