

SC397092

Registered provider: Bryn Melyn Care Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home was registered with Ofsted in July 2009 and is operated by a private company. It provides care for up to three children with complex social, emotional and behavioural difficulties.

The home has been without a registered manager since December 2021.

Inspection date: 17 June 2022

This monitoring visit

An interim inspection was completed on 29 March 2022. The home was judged to have declined in effectiveness. This is because there were serious and widespread concerns about the safeguarding practice and the leadership and management of the home. On 31 March 2022, Ofsted served a notice of restriction to prevent any further admissions to the home. In addition, compliance notices were issued under regulation 12, the protection of children standard, and regulation 13, the leadership and management standard.

This children's home was judged requires improvement to be good at the full inspection in May 2022. However, shortfalls remained in the leadership and management of the home and this was judged inadequate. The compliance notice under regulation 12 was considered met. The compliance notice issued under regulation 13 was not met and was reissued. In addition, a further notice was issued in relation to the sufficiency of staffing at the home. The notice of restriction remained in place.

At the time of this monitoring visit, there were no children living at the home. The staff team have been redeployed to work in other homes. The provider has identified three support workers to work in this home. However, they are currently working in other homes within the organisation. One of these members of staff is new to the role and is on probation. There was not a clear plan in place of when these staff

would return to the home. This means that there are currently insufficient staff in post to care for children safely.

There is currently no manager or deputy manager in post. This means that there is no one to lead and manage the home at present.

Minimal staff training has taken place and there are gaps in the training of the staff who are planned to work in this home. For example, these staff have not completed training in the home's therapeutic model of care. Therefore, staff have not received all the necessary training to equip them to meet the needs of children.

The home does not yet have effective monitoring systems in place that would allow managers to have oversight of all aspects of the home.

Senior leaders are in the process of carrying out a review into the shortfalls in children's care identified at the previous inspection. The review is ongoing. Therefore, any learning from previous practice or actions for improvement are yet to be identified.

The home's physical environment requires further work. Some areas of the home require further redecoration. The children's bedrooms lack furniture, carpets and beds. As a result, the home is not yet ready to admit children.

Due to the limited progress made, a further notice restricting the accommodation has been issued. In addition, the two compliance notices were not met and have been reissued.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/05/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
29/03/2022	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
14/12/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
10/12/2019	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, 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 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; 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; are provided with supervision and support to enable them to understand and manage their own feelings and responses to the behaviour and emotions of children, and to help children to do the same; de-escalate confrontations with or between children, or potentially violent behaviour by children. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(viii)(ix)(x)(xi)) This requirement was issued at the last inspection and is restated.	14 September 2022

In particular, the registered persons should ensure that staff have the skills to develop positive relationships with children and to respond to their needs appropriately.	
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; manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; 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)(iv)(b)) This requirement was issued at the last inspection and is restated. In particular, the registered persons should ensure that staff are able to manage risks effectively and support children to understand the impact their behaviour may have on each other. In addition, staff and the manager should ensure that they follow children’s risk assessments.	14 September 2022
*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	31 July 2022

promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(d)(h)) In particular, the registered persons should ensure that effective monitoring and reviewing systems of the quality of care provided to children are in place. In addition, the manager should ensure that there are sufficient staff who have received training to meet the needs of children.	
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; 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. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(f)) This requirement was issued at the last inspection and is restated, as shortfalls were still evident during this inspection.	14 September 2022

In particular, the registered persons should ensure that they have a good understanding of the care provided to the children in the home, and that they have systems in place to ensure that children continue to make good progress.	
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children’s home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b)) This requirement was issued at the last inspection and is restated. In particular, the registered persons must ensure that they evidence that sufficient steps have been taken to ensure that children have a positive experience of moving on from the home.	14 September 2022
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; 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	14 September 2022

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)(iv)) This requirement was issued at the last inspection and is restated. In particular, the registered persons should ensure that staff provide sufficient detail when recording physical restraints of children. In addition, the manager should ensure that staff record debriefs and the effectiveness of the measure when consequences are issued to children.	
The registered person must maintain records ("case records") for each child which— are kept up to date. (Regulation 36 (1)(b)) This requirement was issued at the last inspection and is restated. In particular, the registered persons should ensure that staff maintain an accurate record of children's day-to-day experiences.	14 September 2022
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.	14 September 2022

In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating—

the quality of care provided for children;

the feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and

any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided for children.

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").
(Regulation 45 (1) (2)(a)(b)(c))

This requirement was issued at the last inspection and is restated.

In particular, the registered persons must ensure that they complete a detailed review of the quality of care provided to children and that the action are linked to their findings.

*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

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: SC397092

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Bryn Melyn Care Limited

Registered provider address: Atria, Spa Road, Bolton BL1 4AG

Responsible individual: Rhian Hopkins

Registered manager: post vacant

Inspector

Debbie Holder, social care inspector

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