

SC407929

Registered provider: Our Place (2008) Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A private company operates this children's home. It provides care for 10 children with learning disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder and associated challenging behaviours. Children may stay after they reach 18 years old.

The registered manager left on 14 April 2022. A new manager is in post. He intends to apply to register.

A restriction of accommodation notice has been issued. The notice is in effect from 23 June 2022 until 14 September 2022.

Inspection date: 1 August 2022

This monitoring visit

On 21 and 22 June 2022, an assurance inspection was undertaken at the home. Inspectors identified serious and widespread concerns in relation to the care and protection of children. A notice of restriction of accommodation and compliance notices under regulations 12, 13 and 35 were issued.

On 25 July 2022, a monitoring visit was undertaken to review the provider's adherence to the notice of restriction of accommodation and to review the progress made by the provider in meeting the compliance notices.

Inspectors found that the three compliance notices had not been met. The provider had complied with the notice of restriction of accommodation.

Following that visit, four compliance notices were issued. This included two compliance notices under regulation 12, one compliance notice under regulation 13 and another under regulation 35. One of the compliance notices raised under

regulation 12 and the compliance notices under regulations 13 and 35 were not considered as part of this latest visit as their end dates had yet to be reached.

Given the short time since the last visit, the focus of this visit was on the specific steps contained in the one compliance notice raised under regulation 12 which was due to be reviewed.

Sufficient progress has been made to meet the compliance notice. Most staff are now trained in emergency first aid. Children's risk assessments have been updated to include known risks for children and guidance for staff to follow to keep children safe. Staff are aware of the new risk assessments but had not had time to familiarise themselves with their content. This will be reviewed at the next monitoring visit.

Following this visit, the notice of restriction of accommodation remains in place. Ofsted will undertake a further visit to review this and the three compliance notices that remain in place.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
26/04/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
20/01/2022	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
03/08/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
27/11/2019	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 quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— provide to children living in the home the physical necessities they need in order to live there comfortably; ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— ensure that staff— meet the needs of each child. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(vii)(c)(i)) This specifically relates to the registered provider ensuring that the environment is improved and meets the needs of the children living in the home.	29 August 2022
The health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met; and 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—	29 August 2022

take part in activities, and attend any appointments, for the purpose of meeting the child's health and well-being needs. (Regulation 10 (1)(a)(c) (2)(a)(iii)) This specifically relates to the manager ensuring that the actions set by medical professionals in children's health reviews are completed.	
The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from relationships based on— 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. (Regulation 11 (1)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)) This specifically relates to the registered provider ensuring that staff support children to keep safe and that staff follow children's plans.	29 August 2022
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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii))	29 August 2022
*The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe.	29 August 2022

In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; 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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(iv)(v)(vi))	
*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 work as a team where appropriate; 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; ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to 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; and	29 August 2022

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)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(h))	
The registered person must ensure that the home is at all times conducted in a manner which is consistent with its statement of purpose. (Regulation 16 (5)) This specifically relates to the statement of purpose being up to date with the care that is provided in the home.	29 August 2022
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— medicines kept in the home are stored in a secure place so as to prevent any child from having unsupervised access to them. (Regulation 23 (1) (2)(a)) In particular, the registered provider must ensure that medication is stored safely. This requirement was raised at the last inspection and was not reviewed during this inspection.	29 August 2022
The registered person may only use devices for the monitoring or surveillance of children if— the monitoring or surveillance is for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the child concerned, or other children. (Regulation 24 (1)(a)) This specifically relates to ensuring that door alarms, CCTV and two-way radios are only used as set out in a child's agreed risk assessment. This requirement was raised at the last inspection and was not reviewed during this inspection.	29 August 2022
A person may only manage a children's home if— 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	29 August 2022

appropriate experience, qualification and skills to manage the home effectively and lead the care of children (Regulation 28 (1)(b)(i))	
The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. The registered person may only— employ an individual to work at the children's home; or if an individual is employed by a person other than the registered person to work at the home in a position in which the individual may have regular contact with children, allow that individual to work at the home, if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3). The requirements are that— full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. (Regulation 32 (1) (2)(a)(b) (3)(d)) This specifically relates to the registered provider ensuring that all gaps in agency employment are checked and that information about the worker is clear and consistent.	29 August 2022
The registered person must ensure that all employees— receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience; and have their performance and fitness to perform their roles appraised at least once every year. (Regulation 33 (4)(b)(c)) This specifically relates to the registered provider ensuring that all staff working in the home receive practice-related supervision and appraisals.	29 August 2022
*The registered person must prepare and implement a policy ("the behaviour management policy") which sets out— how appropriate behaviour is to be promoted in the children's home; and	29 August 2022

the measures of control, discipline and restraint which may be used in relation to children in the home. 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 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 (1)(a)(b) (3)(a)(vii)(viii)(b)(i)(ii)(c))	
The registered person must maintain records (“case records”) for each child which— include the information and documents listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child. (Regulation 36 (1)(a)(b)) This specifically relates to the need for the home to have children’s up-to-date care plans and education plans.	29 August 2022
Schedule 4 sets out the other information that the registered person must keep in relation to a children’s home. The registered person must— maintain in the home the records in Schedule 4. (Regulation 37 (1) (2)(a))	29 August 2022

This specifically relates to ensuring an accurate and up-to-date record of the staff who have worked in the home.	
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*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendation

- The registered person should have a workforce plan which can fulfil the workforce-related requirements of regulation 16, schedule 1. The plan should be updated to include any new training and qualifications completed by staff and used to record the ongoing training and continuing professional development needs of staff, including the home's manager. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 53, paragraph 10.8)

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: SC407929

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Responsible individual: Jarrod Elcock

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Sarah Billett, Social Care Inspector

Alison Cooper, Social Care Inspector

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