

SC411616

Calcot Services for Children Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home is registered to provide care for up to four children. The statement of purpose says that a therapeutic approach is taken in working with children, with the aim of enabling them to return to their family home, to alternative family placements or to move on to independent living.

The home has been without a registered manager since 31 December 2021.

Inspection date: 9 June 2022

This monitoring visit

This home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 30 May 2022.

This visit was undertaken to monitor the provider's compliance with a restriction of accommodation notice that was imposed on 1 June 2022 and to review the provider's initial action plan.

Although the manager is working through the concerns identified at the full inspection, overall progress is slow. The manager has started to look at children's safety plans, but there continues to be shortfalls. There is still no formal agreement in place with a placing local authority over a child's independence time. Agreed strategies with the police to help to reduce a child's missing-from-care incidents are still not documented. This was rectified on the day of the visit.

Five out of ten staff have now received training in the use of ligature releases. The remaining staff are due to receive the training next week. Managers have ensured that each shift has at least one member of staff on duty who is trained.

No senior manager has been to the home since the last inspection. This is a significant concern given the severity of the issues noted in the home, including a serious lack of senior leadership oversight.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
30/05/2022	Full	Inadequate
08/12/2021	Full	Good
26/02/2020	Full	Outstanding
04/09/2018	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, 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 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— 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. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(d)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff are suitably trained to meet the needs of the children placed and that there are enough experienced staff to meet each child's needs.	3 July 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 promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(h))	3 July 2022

In particular, the registered person must ensure that there is suitable oversight of the home, including all plans and records.	
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 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. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(e)(f)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that: the statement of purpose is reflective of the service provided in the home; the staff are consistent and trained to meet the needs of the children in the home; and the quality of care is reviewed to reflect the progress that children are making.	3 July 2022
The registered person must— keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it. Subject to paragraph (6), 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 (3)(a) (5)) Specifically, the statement of purpose must be updated to reflect the service provided and which staff are trained in the therapeutic process described.	3 July 2022

A responsible individual must— satisfy the requirements in paragraph (5)(a) to (c); and have the capacity, experience and skills to supervise the management of the home, or the homes, in respect of which the responsible individual is nominated. (Regulation 26 (7)(a)(b)) In particular, the responsible individual must be able to demonstrate that they have the skills to provide suitable oversight of the home.	3 July 2022
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— the individual is of integrity and good character; the individual has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills for the work that the individual is to perform; the individual is mentally and physically fit for the purposes of the work that the individual is to perform; and full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. For the purposes of paragraph (3)(b), an individual who works in the home in a care role has the appropriate qualification if, by the relevant date, the individual has attained—	3 July 2022

the Level 3 Diploma for Residential Childcare (England) (“the Level 3 Diploma”); or a qualification which the registered person considers to be equivalent to the Level 3 Diploma. The registered person may defer the relevant date if the individual— works, or has worked, in a care role in a home on a part-time basis. (Regulation 32 (1) (2)(a)(b) (3)(a)(b)(c)(d) (4)(a)(b) (6)(b)) Specifically, staff who are employed part time may have the date deferred by when they need to have completed a suitable qualification but must still undertake the qualification.	
The registered person must— ensure that each employee completes an appropriate induction. (Regulation 33 (1)(a)) Specifically, to include all staff who work at the home.	3 July 2022
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(e))	3 July 2022

* These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff supervision records contain sufficient information and include details of the actions and outcomes of these meetings. (‘Guide to the Children’s Homes Regulations, including the quality standards’, page 61, paragraph 13.4)

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: SC411616

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Calcot Services for Children Limited

Registered provider address: Advantage, 87 Castle Street, Reading, Berkshire
RG1 7SN

Responsible individual: Sarah Walton

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Jennie Christopher, Social Care Inspector
Emeline Evans, Social Care Inspector

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