

SC450701

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned children's home. It provides care and accommodation for children with learning difficulties. The home may only provide care and accommodation for up to six children.

The home does not currently have a registered manager in post.

Inspection date: 5 November 2020

This monitoring visit

This monitoring visit was undertaken to assess progress of the home following serious and widespread concerns being identified during the recent assurance visit. This monitoring visit took place off site. A risk assessment was undertaken which considered COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines.

A safeguarding concern was investigated and concluded. The children involved were supported by the home and external professionals. The manager has received guidance from the designated safeguarding officer around management of allegations against staff.

The child protection policy has been reviewed and updated. It now contains clear guidance around the management of allegations and links to local policies and procedures.

Not all staff have completed training around the behaviour and risk factors of children in the home. This means that some staff do not have the necessary skills and knowledge to manage specific risks.

Children's risk assessments and support plans are now more detailed. They contain known risk factors for the individual child and guidance for staff on how to manage the risks. These plans do not contain details of an author or a date of review. There is no evidence of whether these documents are shared with the staff team or other professionals.

Not all of the requirements raised following the assurance visit were assessed during this visit. They will be carried over to the next inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/01/2020	Full	Good
28/11/2018	Full	Outstanding
12/02/2018	Full	Good
22/03/2017	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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 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 the effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly. (Regulation 12 (1)(2)(e))	31/03/2021
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. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b)(2)(c))	31/03/2021
The independent person must produce a report about a visit ("the independent person's report") which sets out, in particular, the independent person's opinion as to whether— children are effectively safeguarded; and the conduct of the home promotes children's well-being. (Regulation 44 (4)(a)(b))	31/03/2021

Recommendations

- A record of supervision should be kept for staff, including the manager. The record should provide evidence that supervision is being delivered in line with regulation 33(4)(b). ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.3)

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: SC450701

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider address: Lavender Group Homes, Office 7 and 9, 10 The Headlands, Kettering, Northamptonshire NN15 7HP

Responsible individual: Dawn Aplin

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Sarah Orriss, social care inspector

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