

SC486165

Good Foundations Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This private children's home provides care and accommodation for four children or young people who have social and/or emotional difficulties and who may have special educational needs.

The registered manager has been registered since June 2019.

Inspection date: 18 August 2020

This monitoring visit

This children's home was judged good at the full inspection on 2 March 2020.

This monitoring visit took place in response to information received by Ofsted that indicated a potential serious concern about a child at risk of self-harm.

No serious or widespread safeguarding concerns were found during the visit. Children feel safe and are protected from harm. The managers and staff understand the children's vulnerabilities and their individual needs. The managers and staff recognise the signs that indicate a child may be struggling with their emotional well-being and know what to do to help the child.

Staff support children to talk about their worries and to find healthy strategies to help them manage their feelings safely. Staff respond appropriately when children self-harm. They make sure that children are safe, and get the help they need, including first aid and assistance from emergency health services. Staff make sure that children get the psychological and emotional advice, support and treatment that they need from health services.

Children's risk assessments and management plans do not always include all the information that is known about the child, to help to reduce the risk of self-harm.

Likewise, the plans do not include details of the steps staff should take to protect a child when they have self-harmed. This does not help staff to know what they should do to support the child and provide the child with a consistent response.

The management oversight of incidents of self-harm is not rigorous. Managers have not scrutinised incident records thoroughly to find out what actually happened. They have not identified and investigated possible weaknesses in practice. They have not evaluated how well the strategies used by staff have worked. They have not used the incidents as opportunities for learning to improve or change practice and make sure it meets the needs of the child.

A child has contacted a member of staff on their personal telephone number. The home's policy is that staff should not give children their personal numbers. When managers became aware of this, they should have ensured that they had a clear record of the action they took in response. The managers must make sure that staff consistently follow the home's policies and procedures. Staff must understand their roles and responsibilities, and what they are authorised to decide on their own initiative.

The arrangements for managing children's medication are safe. The recording and monitoring systems prevent the misuse of prescribed medication. However, the home does not have medically approved protocols for children's use of 'as required' medication. This should set out the arrangements for when to give the medication, and what to do if the child is no longer using it.

This monitoring visit did not consider the requirements and recommendations made at the last full inspection that did not relate to the reasons for the visit. These requirements and recommendations will be reviewed at the next inspection visit.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
02/03/2020	Full	Good
05/12/2018	Full	Good
03/10/2017	Full	Good
21/02/2017	Interim	Sustained 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 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. (Regulation 12 (1)(2)(a)(i)) In particular, risk assessments and management plans must include details of the steps the home will take to manage any assessed risks on a day-to-day basis.	20/09/2020
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;	20/09/2020

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)(f)(h))	
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— take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare. (Regulation 12 (1)(2)(a)(vi))	17/04/2020
The registered person must ensure that a record is made of any complaint, the action taken in response, and the outcome of any investigation. (Regulation 39 (3))	17/04/2020
In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating— 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. (Regulation 45 (2)(b)(c))	17/04/2020

Recommendations

- Medicines must be administered in line with a medically approved protocol. ('Guide to the children's home's regulation including the quality standards', page 35, paragraph 7.15) In particular, when children are prescribed 'as required' medication.

- For children's homes to be nurturing and supportive environments that meet the needs of their children, they will, in most cases, be homely, domestic environments. Children's homes must comply with the relevant health and safety legislation. ('Guide to the children's home's regulation including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9) In particular, the home should ensure that the garden is a safe place for the young people.
- Staff should be familiar with the home's policies on record keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective and clear recording. Information about the child should always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child. The home's records on each child represent a significant contribution to their life history. ('Guide to the children's home's regulation including the quality standards', page 62, paragraphs 14.4, 14.5) In particular, that the young people's healthcare plans, keyworker reports and return home interviews are detailed and demonstrate the outcomes and next steps for young people.

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: SC486165

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Good Foundations Limited

Registered provider address: 6 Tower Quays, Tower Road, Birkenhead, Merseyside CH41 1BP

Responsible individual: Andrew Mannix

Registered manager: Jennifer Healy

Inspectors

Nick Veysey, social care inspector

Jessica Forshaw, social care inspector

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