

SC020558

Overley Hall School Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned residential school is registered as a children's home that can accommodate up to 22 young people who have severe learning disabilities and/or sensory impairment, challenging behaviours or autistic spectrum disorders. Young adults may stay beyond the age of 18 to complete their education. A separate residential home for young adults, registered with the Care Quality Commission, also operates in the school grounds. The manager was registered with Ofsted on 14 June 2018.

Inspection date: 3 July 2018

This monitoring visit

At the inspection on 9 and 10 May 2018, the home was judged to be inadequate. As a result, Ofsted raised six requirements.

Since the last inspection, the registered manager has not admitted any new young people to the home.

The registered manager and her team have worked hard to meet all the requirements made at the last inspection. There is an impressive development plan in place, and the registered manager has a clear plan to continue to improve the home.

Managers have ensured that young people's records contain all required information. For example, all young people's files now contain the up-to-date local authority care plan. Young people's risk assessments have been reviewed and are now more focused on the individual needs of each young person. This means that staff are well positioned to identify any changes in young people's behaviour which could indicate potential concerns.

Team meetings are now an effective forum for staff to share up-to-date information about young people's progress. The registered manager uses these meetings to

deliver key messages about staff expectations. The registered manager is clear that staff need to understand the complex needs of the young people they are caring for. In response, staff have received training to improve their understanding of their roles and responsibilities. This includes training for effective care planning, expectations of key working and understanding attachment. Further external safeguarding training for staff took place during the week of the inspection. The aim was to further develop staff knowledge about accountability, and explore what life is like for young people cared for at the home. Through feedback, staff report that they want to develop. Staff are now motivated and are keen to apply their training to practice, and to support the progress of young people.

Staff now receive good-quality supervision that focuses on the needs of young people.

Recruitment records now demonstrate compliance with safe recruitment practice. This practice supports the prevention of unsafe adults working with young people.

All safeguarding incidents are appropriately referred for safeguarding consideration to the designated officer for the local authority. Leaders have worked closely with the speech and language team to devise a new complaints process for young people. This facility enables young people to make a complaint using a range of visual symbols.

In addition, 'Help' symbols and complaints posters are now accessible to the young people throughout the home. For example, young people have visual posters with symbols that explain how they can access the clinical psychologist.

The young person's guide has also been updated since the last inspection. This now supports young people to understand bullying and fire procedures. These developments are helping young people to have more control over their lives and personal safety.

The registered manager has secured funding for two specialist independent advocates to visit the young people in the home once a fortnight. This will support each young person to have the right to have their voice heard and to have the same choices, opportunities and experiences as other young people.

The home is currently being refurbished throughout. The entrance hallway now has a large comfortable sofa, which has been well received by the young people. The middle and top floors of the home have new flooring and have been painted. All of the young people's bathrooms are in the process of being refurbished. Some young people have been involved in choosing colour schemes for communal areas and their bedrooms. There is an extensive plan in place for all the young people's bedrooms to be refurbished. These developments will support a homelier environment for young people to live in and to enjoy.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/05/2018	Full	Inadequate
13/10/2017	Full	Good
27/02/2017	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
21/12/2016	Full	Good

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: SC020558

Provision sub-type: Residential special school

Registered provider: Overley Hall School Limited

Responsible individual: Anita Brown

Registered manager: Tracy Francis

Inspectors

Lisa Walsh, social care inspector

Anna Gravelle, social care inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: <http://www.gov.uk/ofsted>

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