

1183069

Registered provider: Aspris Children's Services Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home provides care for up to 6 children with mental health needs.

Four children were living at the home at the time of the inspection.

The manager registered with Ofsted in May 2023.

Inspection dates: 28 and 29 April 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 20 May 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/05/2025	Full	Good
13/08/2024	Full	Good
04/03/2024	Full	Good
12/07/2022	Full	Good

Summary of findings

Children living in the home are making good progress from their starting points. Children feel safe and well supported. Children experience well-planned transitions when moving in and out of the home. Staff promote the importance of education for children.

Leaders and managers have good oversight. They ensure that staff receive training and support to help them understand and fulfil their roles. Staff speak positively about the managers. Feedback from professionals and family is positive. However, shortfalls were identified that relate to children not receiving outcomes to concerns they raised and some staff not completing the relevant qualification within the required timeframe.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, 3 children have moved into the home, and 2 children have moved out. At the time of this inspection, 4 children were living at the home. The inspector met all the children, and 2 children contributed to the inspection.

The planning arrangements for children coming to live at the home are incredibly detailed. Leaders and managers make sure they understand each child's individual needs and how they can meet them. Staff get to know children and establish relationships with their families before they move in. The children acknowledged that this helped them to settle in quickly.

Interactions between staff and children are warm, genuine and caring. Children speak highly of the support that they receive from staff. One child said, 'Staff always make time for me, my key worker is incredible.' Children's families and professionals are complimentary about how well children are cared for and the progress that they are making.

The home has recently been through a turbulent period with group dynamics that led to escalating incidents for some children related to their mental health. Despite this, leaders, managers and staff have ensured that good standards of individualised support and care have been maintained. This approach has helped children to understand and manage their emotions in healthier ways.

Staff are child focused and motivated and enjoy their role. Staff are incredibly proud of the achievements of all children. They capture these achievements in books that children take pride in reading. This helps to build children's self-esteem.

Some children had been out of education for a significant period. Staff help children to access education based on their learning styles. Staff seek education provisions that meet children's individual needs. For one child, staff have worked effectively with

professionals to reintegrate them back into their preferred school. As a result, they are now attending education regularly and are excited about their future.

Leaders, managers and staff work diligently to enable children to gain the skills that they need to build their independence. Children are prepared both practically and emotionally through tailored plans and support. This work has been instrumental in the successful move-on plans for 2 children. There are plans for another child to move on to a less supported environment due to the progress that they have made from their starting point.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: good

Children have complex mental health needs, with histories of going missing from home, self-injurious behaviour and vulnerabilities to exploitation. Staff have a good understanding of children's backgrounds and lived experiences.

Children benefit from access to an on-site therapist. Children speak very highly of the support they receive from the therapist. Some children have been able to benefit from therapy for the first time.

There has been a recent cycle of high-risk behaviours among children. This has led to necessary restraints and an increase in instances when children are missing from the home. Staff have responded to these incidents appropriately and in accordance with their plans. Staff explore incidents and have detailed and reflective discussions with children to identify future coping strategies. Overall, incidents are reducing in frequency for all children.

Concerns relating to staff conduct, including allegations made by children, have been investigated thoroughly and in a timely way. These concerns are shared with senior managers, the local authority designated officer and Ofsted in accordance with the home's safeguarding policy. Investigations completed by managers are clear and do not look at concerns in isolation. Learning has included further training and support for staff and changes to guides to help inform practice. However, leaders and managers do not inform children of the outcomes to concerns they have raised.

Children's risk management plans are detailed. They cover a range of risks and behaviours and include individual strategies that staff use to support the children. Staff have a good understanding of children's needs, and children are provided with well-planned support to improve their emotional resilience. However, there are some inaccuracies in plans relating to how much time children can spend in the community without staff and how children's risks are measured. Staff do not always sign these plans to acknowledge important changes. If left unchecked, this shortfall could lead to inconsistencies in staff's practice.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is led by a qualified and experienced manager. The manager works very closely with the deputy manager. Leaders and managers are dedicated, skilled and knowledgeable in relation to supporting children with ongoing mental health needs.

The management team has a detailed knowledge and good understanding of the children's needs. External professionals are regularly updated and informed of areas of concern along with children's progress. Communication between managers and professionals is exceptionally good.

Leaders and managers are strong advocates for children. They make sure that any decisions made for children are well thought out and in children's best interests. This has included challenging other services, such as the local police service and council.

Safer recruitment processes are followed. New staff benefit from good inductions, which include comprehensive training. For existing staff, additional and ongoing training is specific to the needs of the children who live at the home.

Leaders and managers are highly regarded by staff and children. Staff feel well supported by the management team. Team meetings take place regularly and are well attended by staff. Regular supervision sessions provide staff with a supportive forum to reflect on their practice and discuss children's needs. However, 3 staff members who have worked at the home for over 2 years have not yet completed their required qualification in a timely way. Leaders and managers have not evaluated the staff's skills to ensure that they have the training and knowledge to meet the needs of the children.

The manager demonstrates a good understanding of the home's strengths. However, leaders and managers do not always ensure that reviews of the home regularly seek feedback from the children, professionals, staff and, where appropriate, family members. Opportunities to share feedback could provide valuable developmental opportunities along with offering further opportunity to share any concerns.

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, The 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 children's views, wishes and feelings standard is that children receive care from staff who— develop positive relationships with them; engage with them; and take their views, wishes and feelings into account in relation to matters affecting the children's care and welfare and their lives. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that staff— help each child to understand how the child's views, wishes and feelings have been taken into account and give the child reasons for decisions in relation to the child. (Regulation 7 (1)(b)(c)(2)(a)(iii)) In particular, children should receive outcomes to any concerns they raise.	29 May 2026
The registered person may only— employ an individual to work at the children's home if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3). The requirements are that— the individual has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills for the work that the individual is to perform. For the purposes of paragraph (3)(b), an individual who works in the home in a care role has the appropriate qualification if, by	30 October 2026

the relevant date, the individual has attained—

the Level 3 Diploma for Residential Childcare (England) ("the Level 3 Diploma"); or

The relevant date is—

in the case of an individual who starts working in a care role in a home after 1st April 2014, the date which falls 2 years after the date on which the individual started working in a care role in a home

The registered person must take reasonable steps to ensure that any individual who is working at the home and who does not fall within paragraph (2)(a) and (b) is appropriately supervised while carrying out the individual's duties.
(Regulation 32 (2)(a) (3)(b) (4)(a) (5)(a)(8))

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that all children's risk management plans are kept up to date. These plans should be signed by all staff to demonstrate they understand what is expected from them. (Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards, page 62, paragraph 14.43)
- The registered person should actively seek feedback as part of independent and internal monitoring (including under regulations 44 and 45) to ensure continuous improvement. (Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 55, paragraph 10.24)

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, using the social care common inspection framework. This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1183069

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Aspris Children's Services Limited

Registered provider address: 2 Barton Close, Grove Park, Enderby, Leicester LE19 1SJ

Responsible individual: Michelle Batchelor

Registered manager: Kerry Moore

Inspector

Lexi Mitchell, social care inspector

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