

1185765

Registered provider: Horizon Care and Education Group Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private organisation. It cares for up to four children with social and emotional difficulties.

The manager is suitably qualified and has been registered with Ofsted since February 2021.

At the time of this inspection, four children were living in the home.

Inspection dates: 10 to 11 December 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
---	-------------

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

The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
---	------

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 18 February 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: Good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/02/2025	Full	Good
09/05/2023	Full	Good
07/02/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
09/03/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The manager and staff interactions with the children are consistently sincere, nurturing and calm. Staff have an in-depth understanding of each child's needs and use this knowledge effectively to help them build trusting relationships.

Children's progress in education is mixed. Despite these challenges, education is valued within the home. Each child has a bespoke plan, and staff regularly encourage engagement. As a result, two children have made measurable progress from their starting points.

Staff advocate well for children's health needs, making timely referrals to ensure they receive support from the relevant services. When children are reluctant to attend health appointments, staff use creative and flexible approaches to ensure their needs are still met. For example, staff arranged for a doctor to visit the home when one child refused to attend appointments. As a result, children's health concerns are managed appropriately.

Staff work closely with external professionals to enhance children's experiences. Feedback from these professionals is consistently positive and highlights the staff team's commitment to providing safe, thoughtful care that improves outcomes for children.

Staff value the importance of social inclusion and encourage children to pursue their hobbies and interests. Children are also given opportunities to experience new activities, including holidays abroad, snooker lessons and musical instrument classes. These experiences help children to develop new skills and enjoy positive childhood memories.

Meaningful direct-work sessions are completed with children to help them understand and reflect on their behaviours in a child-friendly and informative way. Staff have undertaken direct work on sensitive topics such as racism, peer relationships and suicidal ideation.

Most areas of the home offer a modern and welcoming environment. However, some areas require attention, including worn carpets and dark internal doors, which detract from the otherwise homely feel. In addition, the practice of locking away food items undermines the domestic environment and contributes to an institutional atmosphere.

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

The manager and staff demonstrate a sound understanding of the risks associated with each child. They use this knowledge to implement effective strategies that safeguard children and minimise those risks. All children told the inspector that they feel safe, and they spoke positively about the care they receive. Staff practice helps children to feel cared for and protected.

The use of physical intervention is rare. Staff rely on the strong, positive relationships they have built with the children to help them feel heard and supported. Incident records show that staff use playful and nurturing approaches to de-escalate situations and prevent incidents from escalating further.

There have been no incidents of children going missing from home. When children leave the home without permission, staff take prompt and proportionate action. They maintain visual oversight where safe to do so and effectively encourage children to return home. These approaches have contributed to children's safety and the absence of missing-from-home episodes.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

A qualified and experienced registered manager leads the home alongside an equally committed deputy manager. Together, they share a clear ambition for children to have high aspirations and receive individualised care. They are dedicated to providing nurturing support that helps children feel safe and secure. The registered manager's joyful and caring manner is well received by the children. Their patient and composed nature helps children feel comfortable, and they frequently seek the manager out for support.

The manager is clearly motivated to drive continuous improvement in the quality of care children receive. They achieve this through monthly audits and ongoing monitoring systems that identify areas for development. The manager also seeks regular feedback, which is reflected in both the point-in-time survey and the regulation 45 report. This strengthens children's voices and ensures their wishes and feelings influence the care provided.

Staffing levels are sufficient and provide children with stability and consistency from a team they know well. No agency staff have been used, due to the manager's commitment to maintaining a familiar and stable staff group.

Team morale is high, and staff report feeling well supported by the management team. The manager is committed to staff development and regularly delegates tasks that promote learning and improve staff practice. As a result, staff have a good understanding of the processes that shape children's day-to-day care.

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirement

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 quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child; and enable each child to participate in the daily life of the home. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) and (2)(c)(i)(ii)) This specifically relates to redecoration in the areas of the home that are worn and dark. In addition, this relates to food not being locked away.	23 February 2026

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: 1185765

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Horizon Care and Education Group Limited

Registered provider address: C/O DWF Company Secretarial Services Limited, 1 Scott Place 2 Hardman Street, Manchester M3 3AA

Responsible individual: Alexander Lee

Registered manager: Emily Hadley

Inspector

Latoya Morgan, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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

© Crown copyright 2025