

1240801

Registered provider: Inspire Children's Services Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private company and provides care for up to three children who may experience social or emotional difficulties and who have learning disabilities.

Three children were living in the home at the time of the inspection.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since April 2023.

Inspection dates: 16 and 17 April 2024

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: 16 May 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/05/2023	Full	Good
08/11/2022	Full	Good
23/03/2022	Full	Good
12/11/2019	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Staff have warm and nurturing relationships with children, and there is a friendly and relaxed atmosphere in the home. Children say that they like living in the home.

All children attend education and make progress. Staff understand the importance of education for children and have high aspirations for them. Staff work with education providers to support children's learning.

Children's views and wishes are sought. Children have opportunities to explore their hobbies and try a range of new experiences. Staff support children to take part in activities such as horse-riding, bowling and attending the local sports club. This provides them with an opportunity to develop their confidence and make new friends.

Staff respect children's relationships with family and friends. They support children to develop and maintain relationships with those who are important to them. Staff support children to safely spend time with family and friends, who are welcome in the home.

Staff support the children to maintain good physical health. The children are encouraged to be active, eat healthily and attend all health appointments. One child has made good progress in developing positive self-care routines.

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

The manager and staff know and understand children's individual vulnerabilities. Staff understand how to keep children safe, and they work collaboratively with relevant professionals. One social worker said, 'Staff are responding appropriately to keep [name of child] safe.'

Staff support children through engaging them in meaningful direct work. They treat children with dignity and respect. Staff address children's risks and vulnerabilities and support them to make more positive choices. Children say that they can talk to staff if they have a problem.

Behaviour support plans help staff to understand children's behaviour and support positive change. Children are praised and receive rewards for doing well. Consequences are proportionate and fair.

Missing-from-care protocols are understood and followed by staff. Records of incidents of children going missing are detailed and describe the action staff will take to support children to return home safely. Staff actively look for children when they are missing and liaise with external professionals to help to reduce risk.

The manager ensures that safer recruitment practices are implemented when considering employing new staff to work at the home. This means that only the most suitable staff work at the home and that it is a safe place for children to live.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is managed by an experienced and qualified manager. He is supported by a committed deputy manager. Leaders and managers are child-centred and keen to achieve positive outcomes for the children. They work together to ensure that children are provided with good-quality care in the home.

The home is suitably staffed to meet children's needs. There is a stable core staff team in place and agency staff are not used. This helps to promote continuity of care for the children so they can develop ongoing relationships with trusted adults.

The manager knows the children well and is a good role model for staff and children. He ensures that the children's plans identify their individual needs and align with the local authority care plan for each child. However, some plans do not contain the most up-to-date information, to reflect the progress that children make.

Staff receive ongoing support, supervision and guidance from managers. Supervision records demonstrate that staff are provided with opportunities to reflect on their practice and development. Staff describe the manager as supportive and say they enjoy working in the home.

Managers do not consistently report serious incidents to Ofsted within the required timescales. This means the regulator has no initial oversight of what action staff take to keep children safe. A requirement is made to address this shortfall.

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 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— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1) (2)(h)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that children's care plans and risk management plans contain accurate and up-to-date information.	8 June 2024
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation; an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious; there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; a child protection enquiry involving a child — is instigated; or concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or	8 June 2024

there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))	
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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: 1240801

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Inspire Children's Services Limited

Registered provider address: Inspire Children's Services, Unit 3, Craig Court,
Standish Street, St Helens WA10 1GJ

Responsible individual: Michael Bradshaw

Registered manager: Bradley Ashurst

Inspector

Cathy Trengove, Social Care Inspector

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