

1244460

Registered provider: Holistic Approach Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and managed by a private organisation. It provides care for up to five children who may experience social and emotional difficulties and may have learning disabilities.

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

The manager registered with Ofsted in August 2024.

Inspection dates: 28 and 29 January 2025

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: 13 February 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
13/02/2024	Full	Good
21/02/2023	Full	Good
16/03/2022	Full	Good
25/02/2020	Full	Outstanding

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children say that they feel safe and happy living in the home. They receive nurturing care from staff who know them well. This helps children to develop trusting relationships with staff and supports them to develop their confidence and self-esteem.

Planning for children's care is good. Children are helped to understand their past experiences and are supported to share their views about the care they receive.

Children engage in key-work sessions with staff. These sessions help the children to understand their emotions and behaviours and provide them with strategies to help them manage difficult feelings. On the whole, records of sessions are detailed and provide an account of the child's input. However, where a child refuses to engage in a session, records of opportunities to revisit the topic are limited.

Education is prioritised. The staff are persistent in their approach and collaborate with external providers to ensure that children receive the most suitable education and support for them. Most children are happy and settled in school. Where there are delays in obtaining a suitable placement, the manager actively escalates concerns to address this.

Children's health is suitably managed. They are registered with local services and receive additional support from external sources when required.

Family time is consistently promoted and supported by staff. Staff collaborate closely with representatives from each child's placing authority and the children's families to ensure that appropriate support and boundaries are in place. This helps children and their families to rebuild positive and safe relationships.

Staff support the children to participate in activities and build friendships in the community. Children enjoy outdoor activities. Staff use the rural surroundings for bike riding, walks in the woods and sledging. This enables children to enjoy fun times and to develop stable friendships with their peers.

Consultation with children is good. Staff spend time with the children around the dinner table discussing and debating matters that are prevalent in society, such as sexuality, race and discrimination. This enables the children to learn about difference and acceptance. Regular children's meetings take place and provide opportunities for children to express their views, wishes and opinions on the care they receive.

The home is set in a rural location. There is ample space for children to relax inside and outside the home. Children's bedrooms are decorated in a style of their choice and contain appropriate furnishings, toys, books and games. Although some work has been

done to renovate the home, such as redecorating, some areas require further updating. This is something that the manager is taking action to address.

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

When safeguarding concerns arise, staff follow the correct procedures. There is effective communication with relevant key professionals. Children have clear safety plans in place with actions for staff to follow.

Staff have a good understanding of the children's needs and the steps to follow to keep them safe. All incidents are clearly recorded and reviewed by the manager. Children's views are sought, and actions are clear. Incidents are followed up through key-work sessions and debriefs that focus on keeping children safe.

In the event of a child being missing from home, staff follow the missing-from-home protocol and are proactive in searching for the child. There is effective collaboration with relevant professionals to ensure that agencies are kept informed. Children are offered an independent return home interview, and key-work sessions are carried out to focus on the risks and dangers when missing.

When an allegation against an adult is made, the manager takes swift action to ensure the children's safety and to inform the appropriate agencies in accordance with the home's safeguarding policy. This transparent approach ensures that any concerns regarding the adults caring for children are managed effectively and independently from the home.

There are occasions when a child's bedroom has been searched. Records reflect the reason for the search and the advice given to the child regarding this. However, the records do not include what items were removed or where they are stored for safekeeping.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager and staff work together to create an environment where the children are safe, valued, respected and accepted. As a result, children receive informed and consistent good-quality care. This is evident in children's progress and achievements.

Half the staff team has successfully completed a relevant childcare qualification. Staff receive consistent and targeted training to assist them in how they support the children. Furthermore, staff receive a range of online learning to help to broaden their knowledge and skills.

The manager provides clear leadership and guidance to the team to ensure that children experience a safe and nurturing environment to enable them to thrive and grow. Staff benefit from clear, regular, formal and informal supervision sessions that support their development and inform practice in the home.

There is a consistent staff team. Staff say that they are happy in their role and that they receive a high level of consistent support and guidance from the manager.

The manager has systems in place to monitor the quality of care provided to the children. Where shortfalls in practice are identified, the manager takes suitable action to raise this with the team.

The independent visitor's report provides a suitable analysis of the care provided in the home and the areas for further development. However, there are occasions when unsuitable terminology has been used in the reports that places the emphasis of a child being harmed as the child's responsibility and not those who may pose a risk of harm to a child.

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the independent visitor's report is reviewed for appropriate terminology and use of language. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.8)
- The registered person should ensure that in the event of a room search, a record is held of any items removed, the reason why and where they are stored for safekeeping. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 16, paragraph 3.20)
- The registered person should ensure that the remaining maintenance work required, including redecorating areas of the home, is planned and completed. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 17, paragraph 3.23)
- The registered person should ensure that children are provided with additional opportunities to address incidents should they initially refuse to engage. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.5)

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: 1244460

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Holistic Approach Limited

Registered provider address: 99 Parkway Avenue, Sheffield, Sheffield S9 4WG

Responsible individual: Brian Lewis

Registered manager: Amie Halliwell

Inspector

Maria McGranaghan, Social Care Inspector

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