

1247764

Registered provider: Compass Childrens Homes Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned children's home is registered to provide care for five children. The home specialises in providing a therapeutic environment for children who display problematic sexualised behaviours.

At the time of the inspection, three children were living at the home. Three children were present and spoke with the inspector.

The current manager has been registered since July 2024

Inspection dates: 11 and 12 November 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: 3 January 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
03/01/2024	Full	Good
30/01/2023	Full	Outstanding
06/05/2021	Full	Outstanding
02/10/2019	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, three children have been welcomed into the home. Three children moved out of the home in a planned way, following a thorough assessment of their needs. One child successfully moved into semi-independent accommodation, and two children have moved into foster care placements.

The home facilitates contact between a child who has left and a child who remains at the home. Staff recognise the significance of the relationship that has formed between the two children and support both children in maintaining this relationship. Staff create memory books for all children who leave the home; these reflect special memories through photos and diary entries.

Children understand the progress they are making through a 'star of the week' programme that highlights children's individual goals and achievements. Staff support children to develop their own identities. For example, children join clubs specific to their interests, such as a LEGO club and cadets. Children regularly access a range of experiences out in their local community to support their confidence and build on their social skills.

The therapeutic model of care is embedded into every aspect of practice at the home. Children engage in regular sessions with their psychologist. In children's meetings, children are encouraged to share their views of how staff can make improvements. For example, the children have created an alternative language sheet that tells staff words and phrases they would prefer staff to use.

Education is promoted effectively. Staff have daily handover meetings with education staff to ensure that they are up to date with children's progress. One child has recently sat a reading test, which evidenced their reading had improved by a whole year during the short time attending the school. Children successfully progress to mainstream college, which evidences the home's commitment to supporting children's educational achievement.

Children are supported to spend time with their families and friends. This enables children to maintain links to significant individuals in their lives. The home recognises the importance of children developing social networks; this is supported through their access to clubs and social activities in the local area.

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

Staff have a clear understanding of the risks posed to children. This includes the use of internet and online safety. Staff use monitoring strategies developed to protect children, and conversations take place with them to raise their understanding of these risks.

Risk management plans are in place to provide guidance for staff on how to keep children safe. When children go missing from home, staff follow the guidance set out in the missing-from-home protocol and liaise with the local policing team when necessary. This process ensures that children with specific vulnerabilities are returned home safely and supported.

Children know how to raise concerns and have done so since the last inspection. The manager responds to concerns quickly and gives children feedback of the actions that are taken, which validates children's voices. Children can identify trusted adults in the home that they feel they can talk to and share their wishes and feelings, as well as any worries they may have. The home provides children with a range of methods to communicate these feelings.

Restrictive practice is only used when necessary to protect children and only as a last resort. Physical interventions are used in a proportionate way. All incidents are recorded, reviewed and monitored by leaders. There is a clear process for debriefing the child following an intervention.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is led by a manager who is very passionate about the home being a family environment for children. The manager advocates the least restrictive practice for children. She encourages them to have a voice and to share their wishes and feelings in respect of every aspect of the day-to-day running of the home.

Five members of staff have left, and seven new members of staff have joined the team since the last inspection. The manager has recognised that while there was a period of instability in the staff team, it has provided an opportunity to recruit new members of staff who can bring a new skillset to the team. Team meetings are reflective on staff's experiences and how they can develop their skills to support children further.

The manager has an ambitious plan and vision to develop staff within the company, recognising the growth and skills of her team. The manager regularly identifies a staff member of the month in recognition of the progress and achievements made by her team.

Staff receive regular supervision. Staff report that they feel well supported by the management team and feel they are encouraged to continually develop their skills through regular access to specialist training and team workshops.

The manager reflects on what progress the home has made and similarly on how the home can progress. The auditing system she has developed is detailed and supports her and the leadership team in identifying areas for progress so effective action can be taken.

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

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff are familiar with the home's policies on record-keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective, and clear recording. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

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: 1247764

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Compass Childrens Homes Ltd

Registered provider address: 3 Rayns Way, Syston, Leicester LE7 1PF

Responsible individual: Teyte Parrish

Registered manager: Danielle Thomas

Inspector

Charlotte Tippet, Social Care Inspector

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