

# 1249115

Registered provider: Your Chapter Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

This home is operated and managed by a private company. It provides care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties. Three children currently live in the home.

There is a new manager in post who has applied to register with Ofsted.

**Inspection date:** 5 March 2024

**Date of last inspection:** 26 July 2023

**Judgement at last inspection:** requires improvement to be good

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## Information about this inspection

At these inspections, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

## Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Children living at the home are well matched. They get on well with each other and they enjoy spending time together doing activities of their choice. Children's needs and vulnerabilities are understood by the manager and staff, and this helps children to feel settled and comfortable in their surroundings.

The model of care at this home has changed from being a specialist service to a service where children receive care and support that is tailored to meet their specific needs. This has reduced risks that children may have experienced. Children no longer go missing from the home, or are exposed to risky situations.

Children who come to live at the home now experience a well-planned transition. Their wishes and feelings are considered, and decisions made are in the best interests of all the children. Plans for children moving on from the home start early so that children have goals to work towards.

All the children are settled, have good relationships with the staff and make good progress. Plans for the children are regularly reviewed in consultation with their placing local authorities. Children's participation in their care plans gives them a voice in their day-to-day care.

Leaders and managers have high aspirations for both children and the staff. Careful consideration is given to ensure that only suitable individuals are employed to work at the home.

Staff spoken to feel supported by the manager, who provides regular supervision sessions. The staff's training needs are met, and additional training is in place to meet the specific needs of the children.

The environment has a nurturing and homely feel. Staff are motivated and cheerful, and this contributes to a relaxed and friendly atmosphere around the home. However, some areas of the home are not easily accessible to the children, and this impedes their freedom of movement in their home.

The manager is on a journey of improvement. Positive progress has been achieved since the last full inspection and the requirements raised have now been met. The manager carefully considers the staff that she employs to ensure they have the necessary skills and aptitude to fulfil the role.

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement            |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 26/07/2023      | Full            | Requires improvement to be good |
| 04/05/2022      | Full            | Requires improvement to be good |
| 20/04/2021      | Full            | Good                            |
| 21/05/2019      | Interim         | Improved effectiveness          |

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

### **Recommendation**

- The registered person should ensure that just as in a family home, children should be able to access all shared areas of their home unless there are specific reasons why this would not meet a child's needs. Limits on privacy and access may only be put in place to safeguard each child in the home. Any decisions to limit a child's access to any area of the home must only be made where this is intended to safeguard the child's welfare. All decisions should be informed by a rigorous assessment of that individual child's needs, be properly recorded and be kept under regular review. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the Quality Standards', page 15, paragraph 3.10)

## Children's home details

**Unique reference number:** 1249115

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** Your Chapter Limited

**Registered provider address:** Hobart House, 3 Oakwater Avenue, Cheadle Royal Business Park, Cheadle SK8 3SR

**Responsible individual:** Bokani Nyoni-Chaya

**Registered manager:** Sarah Wheelwright

## Inspectors

Cath Sikakana, Social Care Inspector

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