

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 by a private company. It provides care for up to 4 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

Two children were living in the home at the time of this inspection, and one child was spoken with.

This home does not have a registered manager. The responsible individual supported the inspection.

Inspection date: 28 January 2026

Date of last inspection: 6 October 2025

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

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

The inspector has 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

This assurance inspection was carried out to review the provider's practice in response to serious incidents and concerns that have been notified to Ofsted. We identified serious and widespread concerns in relation to the care and protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Staff have genuine regard for the children in their care but are unable to establish trusted relationships. One child said: 'I like living in the home, and I like most of the staff, but I do not tell them about what is happening in my life.'

Leaders and managers have not supported staff to establish routines and boundaries for the children. There is a lack of interesting and stimulating activities that would encourage children away from risk-related activities and concerning behaviours. There are also occasions when staff are unaware that children are missing from the home, which places children at increased risk.

Staff do not help children to learn or understand the risks posed to them. Children are not consistently offered supportive conversations following significant incidents. Concerns are not routinely revisited with them to develop their understanding and safety. This includes conversations about important issues such as consent and sexual health.

Some children are experiencing bullying, unhealthy peer relationships and are misusing substances in the home. Staff do not consistently follow the guidance set out in children's plans. Some incidents are not well managed, and these shortfalls are not addressed by managers, increasing children's risk of further harm.

Leaders and managers do not provide adequate leadership to the staff. They do not demonstrate insight into the quality of care provided in the home and the impact this has on the experiences and progress of children. One child suffered a serious assault when out in the community. Despite the fact that the child reported feeling dizzy, staff did not seek timely medical advice. The inaction of managers and staff could have had serious consequences for the health and wellbeing of the child.

Leaders and managers do not respond to some of the children's needs well, disrupt concerning behaviours or promote positive outcomes. Staff are not provided with clear guidance on how to implement change or develop strategies to effectively safeguard children. Staff described care in the home as 'firefighting' and 'chaotic.'

The home environment poses some risks to children and staff. For example, a recommendation raised in a recent fire risk assessment is not being adhered to because fire doors continue to be propped open.

When significant incidents occur, managers do not always report these to all necessary agencies, including Ofsted. This reduces oversight and limits the

understanding of relevant professionals about children's experiences. This weakens the ability of agencies to respond effectively.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/10/2025	Full	Good
19/11/2024	Full	Good
26/07/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
04/05/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good

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 protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; help each child to understand how to keep safe; and take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(vi))	8 March 2026
*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— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home.	8 March 2026

(Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(f))	
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if- There is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(e))	8 March 2026

*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendations

- 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)
- The registered person should ensure that they have systems in place so that all staff receive supervision which allows them to reflect on their practice and the needs of the children assigned to their care. This recommendation is restated from the last inspection. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 61, paragraph 13.2)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1249115

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Your Chapter Limited

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

Responsible individual: Chelsea Bryan

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Jo Cansfield, Social Care Inspector

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