

1250039

Registered provider: The Place Young People's Company

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned home that provides care for up to 4 children who may have social and emotional difficulties.

There is a registered manager in post.

Since the last inspection, 2 children have moved out. Two children are living at the home and contributed to this inspection.

Inspection dates: 23 and 24 June 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
---	-------------

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

The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
---	------

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 11 February 2026

Overall judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/02/2026	Full	Requires improvement to be good
13/05/2024	Full	Good
22/08/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
09/08/2022	Full	Good

Summary of findings

The children are cared for by staff who understand the importance of building strong and nurturing relationships. Staff and managers have developed good relationships with professionals to support children's needs and help them to progress and achieve.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children are cared for in a comfortable and well-presented home. The children are supported to personalise their bedrooms to reflect their choices and preferences.

Staff understand the importance of strong and nurturing relationships with children. Children and staff enjoy spending time together and staff support children's activities and hobbies. Children's achievements are celebrated by staff and managers who speak proudly of them. Children enjoy holidays, which contribute to their wellbeing and experience.

Staff understand each child's individual needs and how best to support them. Staff and children have discussions about things that are important to children, including their emotions and feelings, as well as their future aspirations and goals. Staff are aspirational for children.

Children's health needs, including their emotional health, are understood and promoted. Staff support children to attend health appointments and are proactive in rearranging any appointments that children have not attended. Staff and children have discussions about any barriers to attending and how the staff can best support them to attend.

One child said they had been unhappy about an aspect of their care and raised this with staff and the manager. The child was then spoken to by the responsible individual in line with their request. The child remained unhappy with the response; however, the complaints process was not initiated.

Staff support children's education and understand the importance of this. One child has recently taken their GCSE exams. When children do not have formal education in place, staff work with other agencies to explore alternative ways for the child to learn. However, children's routines do not yet support a good educational routine. This is an area for staff development.

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

Experienced and established staff know children well. This helps them to identify when children may need some additional support. Incidents, such as children causing damage in the home or going missing, have decreased and staff take action to reduce risks to children.

Staff and managers have supported children to have positive relationships with each other. Children have started to come together again and are building positive relationships with each other.

Management oversight of incidents is now applied consistently across recording systems to ensure clear accountability and quality. Managers review records, consider contexts and reflect on what these mean for children. Case recording and scrutiny following incidents has improved since the last inspection.

Children have individualised risk assessments and care plans. These are clear for staff to follow, are reviewed regularly and reflect children's wishes and feelings.

Managers and staff work closely with the placing authorities and other key safeguarding agencies to keep children safe. There is effective partnership work and specialist support is sought when this is identified to be needed. A shortfall was identified that staff could have been more proactive when children went missing overnight. This is a missed opportunity to establish children's whereabouts and safety.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager, the responsible individual and other senior leaders have worked together since the last inspection to stabilise the staff team and increase children's safety and wellbeing. Development plans and action plans are regularly reviewed, which helps to track progress and adjust practice quickly.

Staff speak highly of the support they receive from the manager and senior leaders. Staff find managers visible and approachable. Staff value having time together as a team as part of their development. Team morale is good.

The manager understands and follows safer recruitment and vetting procedures for new staff. There is an induction and training programme, along with them doing shadow shifts at the start of their employment.

External stakeholders are positive about the quality of care for children, and they find communication with the manager to be good. Professionals recognise clear progress for children.

The manager is ensuring that staff are upskilled and supported to meet the children's needs. Through supervisions, team meetings, workshops and daily training the staff are supported to manage difficult situations. This helps staff to support children consistently when children may need more help.

The manager was reflective about the challenges following the previous inspection. The manager has plans to continue to drive progress forwards to help children to continue to make progress and prepare for independence.

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff understand factors that affect children's motivation to behave in a socially acceptable way. Staff should encourage an enthusiasm for positive behaviour through the use of positive behaviour strategies in line with the child's relevant plans. This includes helping children to develop healthy and positive daily routines, particularly when not attending school regularly. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 39, paragraph 8.13)
- The registered person should ensure that there are specific procedures to prevent children going missing and take action if they do. All policies should be reviewed regularly and revised where appropriate. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 44, paragraph 9.19)
- Staff should encourage children to share any concerns about their care or other matters as soon as they arise. Children must be able to take up issues or make a complaint with support and without any fear that this will result in any adverse consequences. Regulation 39 sets out the requirements on the registered person to have a complaints procedure. Children must be aware of this procedure and be reminded of it as necessary. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 22-23, paragraph 4.13)

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: 1250039

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: The Place Young People's Company

Registered provider address: 2 Lymevale Court, Lyme Drive, Parklands, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 6NW

Responsible individual: James Binyon

Registered manager: Tegan Ellis

Inspectors

Caroline Hose, Social Care Inspector
Sarah Wilkins, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2026