

1252095

Registered provider: Restorative Social Care Services Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A private organisation runs this home. It provides care for up to two children who may experience social and emotional difficulties. Two children currently live in the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in April 2022.

Inspection date: 26 July 2023

Date of last inspection: 17 May 2023

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.

Inspectors have 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 after Ofsted received complaints about the home. However, we did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

The care of children

Children enjoy positive and friendly relationships with staff. Staff listen to children and, where possible, act on their wishes and feelings. Staff are motivated to provide good care to children and understand their complex needs. They take the time to get to know children well and speak proudly about their progress and achievements.

Children enjoy participating in a variety of social activities. They are encouraged to develop active hobbies and interests. Children go on outings with staff, which provides them with social opportunities and promotes their self-confidence.

Staff understand the importance of promoting and enabling children to stay in touch with their families and friends. Staff support children to maintain and strengthen these relationships and ensure that any visits are safe. Children are encouraged to form friendships and invite these friends to the home. This helps children to sustain important relationships and promotes a sense of belonging.

The safety of children

Risk assessments are thorough. There are effective behaviour management and preventative strategies for the staff to follow. On occasion, the staff have physically intervened to keep children safe and to prevent injury to others. Discussions with children and staff routinely occur, providing opportunities to reflect on whether such incidents could be handled differently in the future. Leaders and managers evaluate these records and ensure that any measures that are used are necessary and proportionate.

Children said they feel happy and safe in the home and that there are trusted staff who they can approach if they have any worries or concerns. Some children are experiencing difficulties in settling at night. The staff have acted to implement positive care strategies to help children re-establish appropriate night-time routines. This support is ongoing.

When recruiting staff, managers follow safer recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are fully vetted and appropriate to work with children. This promotes a safe and healthy environment for children.

Safeguarding incidents and allegations are well managed. The registered manager takes appropriate action and communicates effectively with other professionals to ensure that children are protected in the home.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers

The home is led by a registered manager who is supported by a deputy manager. Together, they have a clear vision for the home. The home is appropriately staffed to meet the children's needs.

The team of staff has been relatively stable, and one new staff member has been appointed to the home since the last inspection. When bank staff have been used, they are generally known to the children. As a result, children are being cared for by adults they have an established relationship with.

Staff feel supported by the management team. They benefit from regular, reflective supervision that supports them to undertake their roles effectively. Regular team meetings also take place, which encourages the sharing of information to explore ways that help them to support children better.

The registered manager is still working on the two recommendations made at the recent full inspection. Therefore, it has not been possible to fully assess progress with these. These recommendations have therefore been restated following this assurance inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
17/05/2023	Full	Good
14/02/2023	Full	Inadequate
22/02/2022	Full	Good
29/05/2019	Full	Good

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff record important information about the individual children. Information should be written in a helpful way and reflect children's life history. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraphs 14.4 and 14.5)
- The registered person should challenge relevant people and services to ensure that children's needs are met while they live in the home. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 12, paragraph 2.8)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1252095

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Restorative Social Care Services Limited

Registered provider address: 8 Victoria Street, Greetland, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX4 8DF

Responsible individual: Christopher Kershaw

Registered manager: Stephen Tuck

Inspector

Evelyn Chafota, Social Care Inspector

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