

1254055

Registered provider: Aspris Care North West Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home registered with Ofsted in August 2017 and is owned and managed by a private provider. It offers care for up to 4 children who experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, four children were living at the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in June 2025.

Inspection dates: 27 and 28 January 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	requires improvement to be good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	requires improvement to be good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home is not yet delivering good help and care for children and young people. However, there are no serious or widespread failures that result in their welfare not being safeguarded or promoted.

Date of last inspection: 5 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
05/11/2024	Full	Good
23/08/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
13/12/2022	Full	Good
12/10/2022	Full	Inadequate

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: requires improvement to be good

Children make variable progress living in this home. Staff struggle to meet the needs of one child. This has affected the child's overall progress and experiences.

The child does not attend education. There is no plan to address this. This affects the child's progress in this area of their life. The child speaks positively about the support they receive from staff and how they have recently worked with child and adolescent mental health services.

Staff do not take timely action to address children's health. This is not prioritised or escalated by the manager. The child's plans do not include relevant information in relation to this.

Children make variable progress in education. The manager works closely with education professionals to ensure that one child's education provision meets their needs.

Children have positive relationships with staff, who they talk to about their feelings. Social workers said the registered manager has maintained consistency for children despite challenges in staff recruitment.

Children engage in activities with staff that support their physical and emotional wellbeing, including going to the gym, boxing, swimming, and taking part in charity events.

Staff support children's relationships with people who are important to them. One parent is happy with how their time with their child has progressed. They say that they receive regular updates from staff about their child.

Communal areas of the home are decorated well and are comfortable. The condition of children's bedrooms is not to the same standard. For example, children do not have sufficient storage for all their belongings.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: requires improvement to be good

Staff are aware of children's individual risks and vulnerabilities. The plans and protocols clearly outline what staff are expected to do to keep children safe. However, staff do not manage incidents safely when a child misuses substances. Staff try to talk to the child about the risks associated with this. However, these discussions are not always effective.

Records of incidents do not include sufficient detail to demonstrate the actions that staff take to keep children safe. This includes details about the actions staff take to ensure that children return home safely.

Following incidents, staff do not always seek medical advice for children, or they fail to do so in a timely manner. Incidents have included children being assaulted and under the influence of substances. Staff safeguarding practices do not demonstrate that staff are proactive.

There has been one occasion when staff used physical intervention to support a child who was in crisis. Staff used a guide to prevent the child from causing harm to themselves or others. The manager carried out a thorough debrief with staff and the child, supporting them in reflecting on the incident.

Staff have meaningful discussions with children to support their understanding of how to keep themselves safe. Staff use consequences to help children understand the impact of their actions. These are used proportionately and are effective in limiting incidents such as children going missing from the home.

There are safer recruitment practices in place to ensure that staff are safe to care for children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: requires improvement to be good

The registered manager knows the children well and is trusted by children as someone they can talk to and share their concerns with.

The manager does not have robust oversight of all areas of the home. Instead, she relies on separate audits, which do not provide her with a sufficient overview. As a result, sufficient action is not taken to ensure that children's needs are met consistently without delay.

Serious incidents are not always reported to Ofsted, or in a timely way, and reports do not include all details.

The managers have taken effective and timely action to address allegations made by children. These are taken seriously and are thoroughly investigated. The manager provides updates for the child to reassure them about the actions taken.

When the manager identifies shortfalls in staff practice, she shares these with staff during team meetings and supervision sessions. Records show that the manager is clear on her expectations of staff, and additional training is put in place to support staff.

The manager works to limit the effect of staffing shortages on children's care. Professionals and staff are positive about how the team of staff have 'pulled together' to ensure that children receive consistent care.

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 education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans; support each child's learning and development, including helping the child to develop independent study skills and, where appropriate, helping the child to complete independent study; understand the barriers to learning that each child may face and take appropriate action to help the child to overcome any such barriers; help each child to understand the importance and value of education, learning, training and employment; promote opportunities for each child to learn informally; maintain regular contact with each child's education and training provider, including engaging with the provider and the placing authority to support the child's education and training and to maximise the child's achievement; raise any need for further assessment or specialist provision in relation to a child with the child's education or training provider and the child's placing authority; help a child who is excluded from school, or who is of compulsory school age but not attending school, to access educational and training support throughout the period of	31 March 2026

exclusion or non-attendance and to return to school as soon as possible; help each child who is above compulsory school age to participate in further education, training or employment and to prepare for future care, education or employment; help each child to attend education or training in accordance with the expectations in the child's relevant plans; and that each child has access to appropriate equipment, facilities and resources to support the child's learning. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii)(ix)(x)(b))	
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; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(b)) Specifically, staff must follow the plans, protocols and procedures in place to keep children safe and ensure that records reflect the actions taken and advice given.	31 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; demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on— research and developments in relation to the ways in which the needs of children are best met; and feedback on the experiences of children, including complaints received; and use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(f)(g)(ii)(h)) In particular, the manager must use monitoring tools and the review of incidents to ensure that she has effective oversight of the home. This includes ensuring that the outcomes of tests carried out to support children's health are followed up and escalated appropriately.	31 March 2026
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation; an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious;	31 March 2026

there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there;

a child protection enquiry involving a child—

is instigated; or

concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or

there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious.

A notification made under this regulation—

must include details of—

the matter;

the other persons, bodies or organisations (if any) who or which have been notified; and

any actions taken by the registered person as a result of the matter;

must be made or confirmed in writing.

(Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e) (5)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(b))

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that there are established routines in place to allow for children's rooms to be cleaned regularly and for staff to help children develop the independence skills to manage this themselves. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 16, paragraph 3.20)
- The registered person should ensure that children are informed about the results of their views being listened to and acted on. This should include whether any complaints or allegations they have made have been upheld or not. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 22, paragraph 4.11)

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: 1254055

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Aspris Care North West Limited

Registered provider address: 2 Barton Close, Grove Park, Enderby, Leicester LE19 1SJ

Responsible individual: Grace Cookson

Registered manager: Nicola Matthews

Inspector

Andrea Foreman, Social Care Inspector

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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

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