

1256060

Registered provider: Homes 2 Inspire Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is run by a private company that is owned and operated by a national charity. It is registered to provide care for up to five children with emotional and social difficulties. At the time of the inspection, there were four children living at the home.

The home is led by a registered manager.

Inspection dates: 4 and 5 September 2024

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 28 November 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/11/2023	Full	Good
10/01/2023	Full	Good
08/09/2021	Full	Good
16/04/2019	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, the same four children have continued to live in the home. Interactions between staff and children are relaxed and demonstrate that children feel safe and valued. The staff talk about the children with care, pride and kindness.

Children's progress is praised by their families and former carers. Professionals involved in their lives speak positively about how well cared for children are. Families and professionals say that they feel welcomed when they visit. The staff team's communication with them is a strength of the home.

Children are learning to recognise and better regulate their emotions. They are more able to manage any changes in their mood in a healthy way. They feel comfortable talking about medical issues with the staff. The team then helps them take the right steps, such as getting medical advice or emotional support.

Two children attend school full time. One currently has a part-time schedule. The remaining child has a tutor at home while awaiting a school place. The manager and team have actively chased the decision-makers. They have now escalated the matter in a bid to reach an outcome that suits the child's needs.

The children are encouraged to eat balanced, healthy meals. They can incorporate their preferences into the menu. Each child has their own routine, including time alone and group activities. They get along like siblings, with the older two children often sticking together and the younger two doing the same.

All the children stay in touch with their families, in line with their care plans. This ensures that they maintain familial relationships.

Staff help them at key times in their lives, such as moving to high school. They are also supported to learn to be more independent.

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

The children are settled and are presenting with less risk-taking behaviour. Staff use effective de-escalation techniques to manage behaviours that challenge. This means there are very few incidents. When incidents do occur, the staff handle them quickly and appropriately.

Staff proactively prevent any disagreements between the children from escalating. This keeps all the children safe. Children rarely go missing. When this has happened, it has usually been linked to external issues or events rather than events in the home. Staff follow the child's missing-from-home protocol and proactively search for the child.

Staff respond to children with care and understanding. They work to ensure that children can better express their anger and upset. Children are encouraged to participate in creating their safety plans. This provides them with a sense of ownership of decision-making.

When a child makes an allegation, it is managed effectively. The staff liaise with the relevant professionals to ensure that investigations are thorough.

Staff conduct routine phone checks to ensure that children are staying safe. They continually work with the children to teach them how to be safer online and while out in the community.

Staff are recruited safely. This includes additional checks being undertaken as required.

Records of incidents and debriefs are generally completed in detail. There have been some incidents where the follow-up action has either not been signed off or not recorded. This hinders clarity about whether all learning opportunities have been explored.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is led by a dedicated manager. He is committed to providing the children with excellent care and experiences. Both he and his deputy lead by example. This creates a positive environment for both staff and children.

The team praises the leaders and say that they love the home. This is evident in their interactions with the children and each other. The team is diverse. This allows the children to benefit from a variety of perspectives and experiences. The children's views are actively considered. These views help shape their care, and influence how staff work with them daily.

The leadership team carries out regular quality assurance checks. These ensure that records and information are accurate and reflect current decision-making.

The shortfalls raised at the last inspection have both been addressed. The statement of purpose is now shared with Ofsted and supervision sessions are held regularly.

Team meetings take place regularly. These, coupled with regular supervision sessions, ensure that practice can be discussed regularly on an individual or team basis.

The manager and staff are strong advocates for the children. They challenge poor decision-making. They recently effectively addressed concerns about a child's education.

The leadership team continues to engage in positive discussions with external professionals. This is contributing to ongoing improvements in the care provided.

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

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that incident follow-up actions are noted. This is to ensure that staff and children maximise any learning opportunities that arise from events. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 55, paragraph 10.24)

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: 1256060

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Homes 2 Inspire Ltd

Registered provider address: Lumonics House, Valiant Office Suites, Valley Drive,
Swift Valley Industrial Estate, Rugby CV21 1TQ

Responsible individual: Kathryn Scoltock

Registered manager: Ian Skene

Inspector

Sonia Hay, Social Care Inspector

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