

# 1258089

Registered provider: Horizon Care and Education Group Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a private company and offers care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties. One child was living in the home at the time of the inspection.

The home was registered with Ofsted in February 2018 and the manager registered in July 2023.

### Inspection dates: 8 and 9 October 2024

|                                                                                           |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account</b> | <b>good</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|

|                                                             |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 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:** 15 January 2024

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** good

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement            |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 15/01/2024      | Full            | Good                            |
| 07/12/2022      | Full            | Good                            |
| 03/02/2022      | Interim         | Improved effectiveness          |
| 17/05/2021      | Full            | Requires improvement to be good |

## **Inspection judgements**

### **Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good**

Staff build trusting and nurturing relationships with the child. These relationships are built on mutual respect. As a result, the child is invested in the home and is making progress in different areas of their life. The child was spoken with during the inspection.

Staff understand the value of education. They promote the child's learning through encouraging them to read at home and to attend school on a regular basis. When barriers to learning occur, staff work closely with the school to try to overcome them. This ensures that the child's educational needs are met.

The child's health needs are promoted well by staff. Staff monitor the child's health and provide the necessary support to ensure that routine health appointments and checks are up to date. There is good support for the child to eat well and remain active. This helps them to learn the importance of staying healthy.

The child enjoys a range of activities linked to their interests. These activities include going to concerts, trampolining and arts and crafts. These opportunities provide the child with enjoyable experiences. This helps them to develop self-confidence and boost their self-esteem.

Staff support the child to remain in touch with people who are important to them. Equally, staff support the child to develop life skills. They encourage the child to cook and clean. These essential skills help the child to develop their independent living skills to prepare for their future.

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

Detailed risk management plans identify the child's risks and vulnerabilities. These documents are clear and detail current risks to the child's safety, including strategies to manage and reduce these risks. This ensures that staff provide the child with consistent support and care.

The child rarely goes missing from the home. There has only been one incident since the last inspection. Staff responded appropriately. This included driving to all known locations persistently to try to locate the child. Staff work closely with the police and with the child's social work team to support the child's safe return. Once the child is found, an independent return home interview is carried out. This discussion can help staff to understand why the child went missing and try to prevent further incidents. This gives a clear message to the child that their safety and well-being are important.

Effective and consistent safeguarding practice means that the child is better protected from the risk of harm. The child has many conversations with staff about a variety of topics. These conversations include the dangers of going missing from home, online

safety and appropriate and healthy relationships. This helps the child to learn how to keep themselves safe.

Staff use positive incentives and restorative practice to promote socially acceptable behaviour in children. Physical intervention is rarely used. On the few occasions when this has been used, it was as a last resort to stop the child from hurting themselves or others. All incidents are reviewed by the manager. This practice helps to keep the child safe.

Staff recruitment is effective. Leaders and managers ensure that all necessary employment checks and verification processes for new staff are carried out. This process ensures children's safety and gives assurances that only suitable people are supporting the child in the home.

### **The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good**

There is strong, effective management at this home. The manager is visible and approachable to the child and staff. He has high aspirations for the child and focuses on providing good-quality care and support. He is supported by the deputy manager and a team of staff who are committed to achieving positive outcomes for the child.

Since the last inspection, the staff team has remained stable, with only one employee joining the team. Staff report a very supportive culture and structure. They benefit from regular supervision and team meetings. To boost staff morale, the organisation celebrates staff's achievements. As a result, staff feel valued. This positivity ensures that the child lives in an environment that helps them to feel secure and make good progress.

The manager ensures that staff have the necessary skills and knowledge to care for the child effectively. All staff have completed their required training. In addition, they receive training linked to the specific needs of the child living in the home, such as self-harm. The ongoing training helps staff to gain a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

The manager carries out robust monitoring of the home. In addition, the monthly visits to the home by an independent person further support the monitoring of the home. The manager acts on any recommendations made. This demonstrates that the manager is keen to learn and has a desire to continually improve practice and experiences for children.

Other professionals speak positively about the home and the support provided to the child, noting the stability and progress achieved. They say that communication is effective. These close relationships ensure that the child is better protected from harm.

## **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:** 1258089

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** Horizon Care and Education Group Limited

**Registered provider address:** Horizon Care and Education Group Limited, Venture House, Unit 12, Prospect Business Park, Longford Road, Cannock, Staffordshire WS11 0LG

**Responsible individual:** Oliver Scrimshaw

**Registered manager:** Joseph Thackray

## Inspectors

Evelyn Chafota, Social Care Inspector

Rachel Moore, Social Care Inspector

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