

1268518

Registered provider: South West Childcare Services

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private provider and offers care for up to two children. The provider states in its statement of purpose that care is provided for children who may experience social, emotional or behavioural difficulties. At the time of this inspection, two children were living in the home.

The home is led by a suitably qualified manager who registered with Ofsted on 5 March 2019.

Inspection dates: 15 and 16 March 2023

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	outstanding
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	outstanding
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding
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The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

Date of last inspection: 7 July 2021

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/07/2021	Full	Good
31/10/2019	Full	Good
01/11/2018	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
23/04/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Both children have made excellent progress from their starting points in all aspects of their lives. Staff support children to achieve their ambitions and give them every opportunity to succeed. One child who previously did not attend school obtained the qualifications they needed to gain their place at college. The child chose their college course with a view to what they would like to do as a career.

Staff are proactive and work positively with parents to ensure both children enjoy meaningful time each week with their families. Staff help children to take every opportunity possible to ensure that strong relationships are maintained. One parent commented that the staff team is incredible and that they could not wish for better people to care for their child. Another parent stated that staff go above and beyond to support them to see their child.

Both children have formed trusted relationships with staff. Staff put the children at the centre of everything they do. They invest time in them, promote their welfare and do all they can to ensure that children experience positive outcomes. Both children enjoy living in the home and have developed a sense that they belong. One child commented that they love living in the home.

Staff are innovative in their thinking and use research to inform their practice. They identify key areas in which children need additional support. Staff undertake extensive research and take part in additional bespoke training to help them to meet children's needs. As a result, children experience in-depth personalised support from highly trained staff, which has a positive impact on their lives.

Children are supported by staff to develop the skills needed to increase their independence in the home and in the community. Children's experiences are recorded in a way that is meaningful for them. This gives children a great opportunity to look back and be proud of everything that they have achieved.

Staff sensitively and effectively help children to maintain good health. Health needs are quickly identified by staff and children are supported to access local health services to get appropriate care and support. Medicine administration is safely and robustly managed.

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

Children say that they feel safe and have dependable staff they can talk to about any concerns that they have. Staff take children's worries seriously and respond to children with kindness and warmth. Staff take appropriate action to allay any fears and promote children's mental and physical well-being.

Experienced and well-trained staff provide high-quality care that helps to keep children safe. Children benefit from the consistent boundaries applied by staff. They continually support children to manage their own feelings and help them keep themselves safe. Staff take time to have important conversations with children and do not shy away from uncomfortable discussions. As a result, children rarely get upset or distressed and restraint has never been used.

There is strong collaborative working between the home and partner agencies. Children are supported by staff who will challenge services when appropriate to ensure that the best possible outcomes are achieved for children. Comprehensive safety planning ensures that all incidents are responded to promptly and effectively, reducing the risk of harm to children.

Staff take a positive risk approach and understand the importance of children being supported to take age-appropriate risks. Proactive safeguarding practices by staff enable children to develop a strong sense of safety. Both children spend quality time with their friends in the community without any unnecessary restrictions. This includes children staying overnight at friends' houses and friends staying in the child's home with them. This has helped both children to develop their self-identity and to form strong and meaningful relationships with peers.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

Children receive exceptional care and support from a very well-led and strong management team. The managers have developed a culture within the home that sets high expectations. This ethos is embraced by all staff, who enable children to achieve excellent outcomes.

Leaders and managers interact with children and staff with kindness and affection. All staff have been in post from the time both children started living in the home. Staff retention is high and agency staff are never used, meaning that children are supported by consistent, well-established staff who know them extremely well. This has been fundamental to the excellent progress that children have made.

Staff are overwhelmingly positive about working at the home. They benefit from a robust supervision process and have access to mental health practitioners to support their development and enhance their well-being. Training is of a very high standard. Staff have gained qualifications to aid their professional development. External professionals commended staff for their excellent communication and spoke highly of the care provided to children and the positive impact staff have on children's lives.

The registered manager has strong working relationships with partner agencies and schools. The manager is influential and has appropriately challenged the school to ensure the best possible outcomes for children are achieved, understanding the important impact this can have on children's development, experiences and futures. The home is a warm, cosy and extremely well-maintained environment and has a loving family home feel to it.

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: 1268518

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: South West Childcare Services

Registered provider address: Maybrook House, Second Floor, Queensway,
Halesowen, West Midlands B63 4AH

Responsible individual: Guy Mammatt

Registered manager: Lucy King

Inspector

Gary Turney, Social Care Inspector

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