

1269215

Registered provider: Hexagon Care Services Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned children's home is registered to provide care for up to three children. The home's statement of purpose states that children living in this home may have a range of social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, the manager was on planned leave from the home. The home is appropriately managed in the manager's absence by a temporary manager and deputy manager.

There were three children living in the home at the time of this inspection.

Inspection date: 30 January 2024

Date of last inspection: 4 July 2023

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be 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.

The inspector has 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

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Since the last inspection, one child has moved on from the home and another child has moved into the home. The manager was able to meet with the child before they moved in. This enabled relationships to start to form and promoted information-sharing. The children living in the home have developed trusting relationships with staff.

Staff have a good understanding of children's experiences, which helps them to tailor their practice to meet children's needs. The children's risk assessments are regularly updated and reviewed. Staff communicate regularly with children about any concerns and risky behaviours, which helps children to understand how to keep themselves safe. Appropriate referrals are made to agencies to support children's health and well-being.

All children are engaging in full-time education. There is good information-sharing between staff and the children's education providers, which promotes the children's education. One child was keen to show the inspector their baking skills by baking cinnamon rolls and sharing these with the inspector, staff and other children.

Staff support children's relationships with their families, and work alongside family members and other services to ensure that time spent with family is safe. This provides children with a support network where they feel safe to maintain relationships with people who are important to them.

Children are encouraged to make healthy lifestyle choices. They are supported to address any emotional difficulties. This includes support from the in-house therapists.

Staff are appropriately trained to manage children's behaviours. Incidents of children being held to keep them or others safe are relatively infrequent. Following the use of physical interventions, debriefs are provided. This helps children to feel safe, and it also helps staff to learn the most effective ways to support children when they are in crisis.

There has been a period of instability in the management of the home. However, the current manager is in the process of registering with Ofsted. During the manager's planned absence from the home, the temporary manager and deputy manager are working closely together to provide stability and consistency for the staff and children.

Quality assurance and monitoring systems have been reviewed, and oversight of the home is much improved. Monitoring systems are embedded into practice and help managers to provide positive feedback as well as identify areas for development. There is a full complement of staff. New staff are undertaking a robust induction and training programme. Better systems are in place to monitor the training that staff complete. Staff receive training around whistle-blowing and raising safeguarding concerns.

The staff feel well supported and are more confident in being able to support the children who are currently living in the home. This is reflected in the positive way that children talk about their experiences at the home.

The requirements and recommendations raised at the last inspection have been fully addressed. No further requirements or recommendations were raised at this assurance inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/07/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
10/08/2022	Full	Good
26/05/2021	Full	Good
14/01/2020	Full	Good

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1269215

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Hexagon Care Services Limited

Registered provider address: 1 Tustin Court, Port Way, Ashton-on-Ribble,
Preston PR2 2YQ

Responsible individual: Robert Allen

Registered manager: Post Vacant

Inspector

Stacey Ilaboya, Social Care Inspector

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