

1271222

Registered provider: GS Social Care Solutions Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and managed by a private company. It provides care for up to 6 children who may have a learning disability and/or physical disability. At the time of the inspection 5 children were living in the home. Inspectors spoke with or observed all the children.

The manager registered with Ofsted on 2 November 2022.

Inspection dates: 12 and 13 March 2026

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: 13 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: outstanding

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
13/11/2024	Full	Outstanding
02/01/2024	Full	Good
28/02/2023	Full	Good
16/03/2022	Full	Outstanding

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children benefit from warm, nurturing relationships with staff who understand their communication styles well. Children and staff play games and engage in shared activities. This promotes a calm and supportive atmosphere, and children's needs are understood and responded to effectively.

Children make good progress from their starting points. There is strong multi-agency coordination, ensuring that children receive timely health and educational support. Staff have high aspirations for the children in their care and speak positively and knowledgeably about their progress. An education professional said, 'The staff have made [child's name] feel welcomed and important, [they are] now a different child, who is thriving.'

Staff care for children with complex medical requirements and implement clear protocols, including well-structured processes for when hospital admission is necessary. They advocate effectively on children's behalf, ensuring that their care remains safe and responsive. This proactive approach contributes to children's health and wellbeing.

Some statutory records, including elements of children's paperwork such as education and healthcare plans, are out of date. This limits staff's ability to base risk assessments and care on the most current information.

Aspects of the physical environment need to be improved. Some of the furniture is worn and wallpaper in the lounge is torn. Some of the paintwork is chipped or has scuff marks

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

Staff have effective arrangements in place to promote children's safety and wellbeing. Systems for dispensing medication are well organised, with clear procedures for storage, administration and responding to any errors. Staff understand the individual risks for each child and use appropriate strategies to minimise them.

Safeguarding knowledge across the team is sound, and staff report feeling well supported by managers. Recruitment practice is well organised. All gaps in employment histories are explored, and references are obtained as part of safer recruitment procedures. This helps to ensure that only suitable staff care for the children.

Physical intervention is used only when necessary to protect children. Managers review incidents, but oversight is not consistently robust. Evaluation of the effectiveness of measures used, accuracy of records, and follow-up action are not always well documented. Recording lacks detail at times, including duration of measures and the views of staff and children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Managers are strong advocates for children and demonstrate a clear commitment to improving outcomes for them. They work constructively with parents, health professionals and local authorities. This helps to ensure that children's needs are prioritised and met.

Staff say that they are well supported by leaders and benefit from regular supervision. Annual appraisals are meaningful and incorporate feedback from external professionals. Staff report that they feel valued, confident and able to raise concerns.

Training provision is strong. Staff receive extensive training relevant to the complex health needs of the children, and compliance with required courses is high. Team meetings are regular and inclusive, with additional nighttime meetings put in place to ensure that staff who work during the night can attend. These provide a good forum for reflective practice and information sharing.

There has been a relatively high turnover in staff. Managers have not identified any clear themes to staff leaving and a long-standing core team provides stability and familiarity for children.

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, 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 registered person must ensure that— within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes— the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(vii)) Specifically, this relates to the use of restraint. Leaders and managers must ensure that they review the effectiveness of the restraint use and that both children and staff are given the opportunity to discuss the restraint and any lessons learned afterwards.	16 April 2026

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that children are able to experience living in a home that is homely comfortable and that the decor is clean and refreshed. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)

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: 1271222

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: GS Social Care Solutions Limited

Responsible individual: Faye Mellor

Registered manager: Naomi Grime

Inspectors

Cathy Wilkins, social care inspector
Samantha Cooper, social care inspector

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