

1271375

Registered provider: Sandcastle Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a private provider. It provides care for up to two children who experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in March 2021.

Inspection dates: 24 and 25 January 2023

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: 21 July 2021

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/07/2021	Full	Good
10/03/2020	Full	Requires improvement to be good
21/02/2019	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
03/10/2018	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

There is one child living at the home and one child has recently moved out. Children receive individual care that meets their assessed needs. Staff provide a caring environment that enables children to have positive experiences and make measurable progress.

Children receive care from a consistent and caring staff team. Staff develop trusting relationships with children. Children talk openly about their wishes and feelings. Children feel that staff listen to them and take their views seriously. Staff make sure that children contribute to the decisions which affect their lives. Children are supported to contribute to their care planning, and there is appropriate consultation with children. This means that children feel listened to.

Children move into and out of the home in a planned and positive way. Prior to a child moving in, leaders and managers assess children's individual needs and evaluate how these will be met. Children experience positive endings to their placements. One child enjoyed a meal out with staff and was given an opportunity to say goodbye to those who cared for them. Children are provided with a memory book that captures their time in the home.

Managers and staff have high aspirations for children to reach their potential. They make sure that children take part in education and are supported to make progress. They work effectively with teachers and the virtual school to identify any barriers to children's learning and make sure that the children get the help that they need, including working with a tutor. Children are supported to attend after-school clubs, which supports their learning and development.

The manager and staff understand children's individual healthcare needs. They make sure that children receive the advice, assessment and treatment that help them to be healthy. Staff help children to receive support from specialist health and therapy services. A therapist works directly with children and staff. This arrangement provides children with consistent therapy-informed care and makes sure that their emotional well-being is monitored effectively.

Children enjoy taking part in hobbies and a range of activities, including trampolining and fishing. Staff encourage children to try new things. Recently, they have taken a child swimming for the first time.

Staff support children to spend time with their family and friends. Staff make sure that children have safe and meaningful experiences with their family.

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

Managers and staff help and protect children. Staff understand how to respond to risk, and there are clear strategies in children's plans. Risk assessments are detailed and contain actions for staff to take to minimise the risk of harm. The registered manager regularly reviews and evaluates risk management plans. Children's individual plans are updated consistently.

The manager and staff provide children with clear expectations and boundaries that promote positive behaviour. Staff have used consistent strategies to challenge any unwanted behaviour. Staff spend time with children to help them to understand their emotions and find healthy ways to manage them.

Staff know what to do when children go missing from home. There are robust missing-from-care protocols which are updated to reflect children's individual plans. Managers and staff work with professionals and parents to support the child's safe return.

Staff rarely need to use physical intervention techniques to protect children from the risk of harm. However, when physical intervention has been used, the manager has not spoken with the child to get their views about what happened.

The manager deals with allegations about staff appropriately. They work closely with safeguarding agencies to understand any concerns and risks. Managers and staff take action to protect children from harm.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

A qualified registered manager leads the home. The manager knows the children well and is child centred. One staff member said, 'He is very understanding and great with the children, he is always available.' Staff state that they feel supported.

The manager uses monitoring and review systems effectively. They make sure that children's plans are comprehensive, up to date and continue to meet children's needs.

The manager reviews and evaluates serious incidents effectively. They identify learning from what happened. The manager uses staff supervision and team meetings productively to talk about their findings, help staff to reflect on children's progress and improve the quality of care and protection that children receive.

Leaders and managers ensure that children are cared for by a consistent, skilled and well-trained staff team. Staff receive training that is relevant to the needs of the children in their care.

The statement of purpose does not accurately describe the home's accommodation. It states that the home can provide care for two children; however, the second child's bedroom is currently being used for staff accommodation.

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— keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. Subject to paragraph (6), the registered person must ensure that the home is at all times conducted in a manner which is consistent with its statement of purpose. Nothing in paragraph (5) or regulation 46 (review of premises) requires or authorises the registered person to contravene or not comply with— any other provision of these Regulations; or any conditions in relation to the registration of the registered person under Part 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000. (Regulation 16 (3)(a)(b) (5) (6)(a)(b)) Leaders and managers must ensure that there are sufficient bedrooms available for children, in line with the conditions of registration and statement of purpose.	7 March 2023
The registered person must ensure that— within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(c))	7 March 2023

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: 1271375

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Sandcastle Care Limited

Registered provider address: Sandcastle Care Limited, 49 Whitegate Drive,
Blackpool FY3 9DG

Responsible individual: Steven Lambert

Registered manager: David Hunter

Inspector

Nichola Croft, Social Care Inspector

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