

2483693

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and managed by a private company. It offers care for up to 3 children who experience social and emotional difficulties or learning disabilities.

The manager has applied to be registered with Ofsted.

At the time of the inspection, 3 children were living in the home and were consulted.

Inspection dates: 17 and 18 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: 16 January 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/01/2025	Full	Good
24/01/2024	Full	Good
21/02/2023	Full	Good
04/10/2021	Full	Outstanding

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children receive individualised care from staff who know them well. Staff use this knowledge to respond to children's needs each day. As a result, children make clear progress from their starting points and are growing in confidence.

Staff actively promote enjoyable and purposeful experiences for children. Children take part in activities, such as jujitsu, football, gym sessions and play games. Staff plan holidays, including trips abroad and in the United Kingdom. These experiences are carefully chosen to match children's interests and needs. As a result, children develop confidence, resilience and a sense of achievement.

Children attend regular house meetings and have meaningful conversations with staff. A therapist works consistently with the children. This helps children to feel respected and increases their sense of belonging.

Children's education is well supported. Staff work closely with education providers to secure appropriate placements. One child attends school regularly and is making progress. Another child recently moved to a new school, and staff maintain regular contact with education professionals to address barriers or challenges quickly. This leads to improved engagement over time.

Staff plan and manage transitions effectively. They prepare children for moves at a pace that suits them, which helps children to feel less anxious. Two children have moved on successfully to family and friend-based care. A new child moved in during the inspection following a well-planned transition.

Staff promote children's independence through daily routines and achievable targets. This helps children to gain practical skills for the future.

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

Staff have a clear understanding of children's risks and vulnerabilities. They work closely with the therapist to develop effective, personalised strategies. This reduces the frequency and impact of incidents.

When incidents occur, staff respond appropriately and proportionately. Physical intervention is rare and only used when necessary to keep children safe. Staff identify triggers early and respond calmly using skilled de-escalation and relationship-based practice.

Children can identify trusted adults in the home. They say that staff listen to them and act when needed to keep them safe. Staff follow clear safeguarding procedures and

complete relevant training. This ensures that concerns are recognised and acted on without delay.

There has been one missing incident. Staff followed procedures promptly and worked effectively with others to secure the child's safe return. Risk assessments are reviewed and updated quickly. Staff reflect on incidents to improve future responses.

Staff promote children's positive behaviour effectively. They use rewards to reinforce positive choices. When consequences are necessary, they are proportionate and discussed with children. This helps children to understand their behaviours and supports positive change.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Leaders provide clear direction and maintain a strong focus on improving children's experiences. Since the last inspection, there have been 2 changes in the manager's role. These changes have been managed well, as each manager has been promoted from within the home, therefore reducing disruption for the children and staff.

The home is currently led by manager who is well supported by senior leaders. She knows the children well and provides consistent care and leadership. The manager remains focused on improving outcomes and maintaining stability for children and staff.

The manager is visible and works alongside staff. She sets clear expectations and leads by example. Leaders promote a culture of reflection and learning. Staff review incidents, discuss practice and identify improvements.

Staff receive regular, meaningful supervision. Sessions focus on practice, wellbeing and development. The therapist also supports staff to reflect on their work with children. This strengthens staff resilience and consistency.

Leaders ensure that staff are suitably trained. Training includes safeguarding, first aid, deescalation and online safety. Staff are equipped to meet the needs of the children. Parents and professionals provide positive feedback about communication and the progress that children make.

Independent monitoring provides oversight of the home. However, this is not consistently evaluative. The independent person does not consistently gather feedback from children, parents or professionals. This limits the effectiveness of monitoring.

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Recommendation

- The registered person should make best use of information from independent monitoring to ensure continuous improvement. The independent person's consultations with children, their families and professional network should be more frequent. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 55, paragraph 10.24).

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: 2483693

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Registered provider address: Suites 1 & 5 Riverside Business Centre, Foundry Lane, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 0RN

Responsible individual: Karl Haywood

Registered manager: Catherine Fairchild

Inspector

Thembie Mzila, Social Care Inspector

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