

2502918

Registered provider: Protea Care 2 Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately owned. It is registered to provide care for up to two children with emotional and social difficulties. At the time of the inspection there were two children living at the home.

The home is led by a registered manager.

Inspection dates: 5 and 6 December 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: 4 January 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/01/2023	Full	Good
06/07/2021	Full	Good
12/03/2020	Interim	Improved effectiveness
30/09/2019	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The home is well maintained and feels like a family home. Both children have lived in the home since the last inspection. One social worker commented that this was the longest time a child had stayed in any home. They believed it was because the home provided good care to the children.

Children enjoy good health. They attend regular health appointments and plan meals with staff on a weekly basis. This allows the children to consider healthy food choices. Children take part in many activities that involve exercise. This includes going to the gym, kickboxing, swimming and walks with the staff.

Children attend school full time. Before the children moved into the home, they were not attending school regularly. The manager has successfully challenged a school to meet one child's needs. The school provided special training to their staff on how trauma affects children's thinking skills. As a result, this child no longer requires a one-to-one support package.

Children enjoy varied activities. They attend after school clubs and activities with staff. One child is in a drama club and has been in a local play. Staff and children do lots of fun things together. This helps to develop positive relationships and children say they like the staff.

Children are at the forefront of staff thinking. Staff give children many chances to share their views, wishes and feelings. They send the children lots of postcards with personal positive messages. The children take great pride in displaying these around the home. As a result, children feel loved and cared for.

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

Children say that they feel safe. Staff have a clear understanding of each child's vulnerabilities and needs. Children are included in their planning when assessing their safety. As a result, each child can talk about how they keep themselves safe. They also feel safe enough to talk about times when they previously felt unsafe. One child's family member said, 'he is safe, is happy and himself again and that's lovely to see.'

Staff know the children well. This allows them to anticipate issues before they escalate. This ensures that behaviour that is difficult to manage does not lead to a physical intervention. Children are always encouraged to understand their feelings after any incidents in a kind and caring way.

The manager responds to any allegations well. They are taken seriously, and safeguarding professionals are involved. There are robust processes in the home to ensure that staff and managers share concerns. This ensures that children feel listened to.

Children do not go missing from their home. The staff use a creative and child-centred approach to help children when they feel overwhelmed and may be at risk of going missing from the home. This includes allowing a child to go on walks to calm down and feel in control. This has meant that the child now uses exercise as a form of managing their feelings.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

This home has a strong leadership team who communicate clearly. The responsible individual and manager both know the children well. They listen to others and include them in decision making. As a result, staff feel valued and enjoy their work.

The manager leads staff in an aspirational, warm and caring manner. She seeks to work alongside the staff in a style of high nurture and high challenge. Staff receive good quality and regular supervision. Regular team meetings are also held. These offer staff space for reflective practice and development.

The manager ensures that staff receive a comprehensive induction and training programme. There is a strong emphasis on staff development. This has meant that staff have progressed within the company.

The manager uses quality assurance processes effectively. There are weekly and monthly audits and management meetings. She knows the importance of regular observation of staff practice. She is aware of the staff team's strengths and areas for development through effective management oversight.

The manager understands the importance of creating a safe and stable environment for the children. She is an effective role model and advocates for the children and staff. She consistently works to build positive and trusting relationships. Therefore, children are thriving, happy and have fun.

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: 2502918

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Protea Care 2 Limited

Registered provider address: 317 Horn Lane, London, London W3 0BU

Responsible individual: Bon Rogers

Registered manager: Fay Cassidy

Inspectors

Shaun Caplis, Social Care Inspector
Majella Russell, Social Care Inspector

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