

2536395

Registered provider: Inspire Children's Services Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a private company and provides care for up to 2 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager was registered to manage this home in October 2025.

At the time of the inspection, 2 children were living in the home.

Inspection dates: 17 and 18 February 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
---	-------------

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

The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
---	------

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 19 February 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
19/02/2025	Full	Good
04/03/2024	Full	Good
14/02/2023	Full	Good
15/03/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children are cared for by a stable and consistent staff team. Staff provide good-quality care to children. As a result, the children living in the home are making good progress. Staff know the children well and spoke confidently about their needs, experiences and achievements.

One child has moved into the home since the last inspection. The manager gathered relevant information about the child and assessed the move with clear exploration of the staff's skills and abilities. The child's move was carefully planned and any potential impact on the child already living in the home was considered.

Staff's ability to build relationships with the children is a strength of the home. As a result, one child has significantly improved their self-confidence and there has been a notable improvement in the other child's challenging behaviours. Both children say that they feel safe and secure in the home.

Both children are making excellent progress in school. Where there have been issues, such as bullying for one child, these concerns have been addressed with the school immediately and the staff have advocated positively for the child. The children are healthy and well. The team ensures that the children attend all relevant health appointments.

The staff treat the children living there with care and respect. Their individual interests are nurtured, and they are supported in their aspirations. Both children attend cadets and regular camps. One child has been supported to become a volunteer in a museum, which showcases his interests.

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

Both children say that they feel safe and cared for in the home. They say that they would feel confident speaking with all staff if they were worried or concerned.

Staff understand children's risks and vulnerabilities well. The registered manager ensures that there are clear and individualised risk assessments in place that are unique to the children. The staff are knowledgeable of the strategies within them and implement them consistently. There is regular communication with professionals to ensure that children are safeguarded appropriately. This means that risks for children are reduced.

The registered manager and staff ensure that positive behaviour is consistently promoted. The staff are skilled in de-escalation techniques, which work for the children. As a result, there has been a reduction in incidents for one child. There have been minimal incidents of physical restraint within the home. Should staff need to physically intervene, all staff are trained to hold the child safely.

There have been no incidents of the children going missing from the home. However, the registered manager has ensured that there is a regularly reviewed protocol in place should they go missing. In addition, staff are aware of the actions they need to take if the children were to go missing from the home.

Staff complete regular training and are knowledgeable around the risks identified for the children. For example, the team has completed specific training around attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, PACE and nurturing attachments. As a result, staff have a good knowledge and skill base to identify risks and safeguard the children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is run by a suitably experienced registered manager, who has very high aspirations for both the children and the staff team. The registered manager leads with an attitude of positivity. She is inspirational, confident and ambitious for the children, and this filters through to the staff, who share these aspirations. The registered manager advocates in a way that goes above and beyond for the children living in their care.

The home is more than adequately staffed to meet the needs of the children. The registered manager provides the staff with regular and meaningful supervision, which is tailored to them and their needs. The staff find both supervisions and team meetings useful in increasing their ability to meet the needs of the children and build on their knowledge and learning.

Serious incidents are rare. When incidents do occur, they are well managed by the staff. Records are clear and have evaluative management oversight within them. However, on one occasion when a child made an allegation, this was not immediately reported to all relevant safeguarding agencies.

The leaders in the home have effective systems in place to ensure that good-quality care is provided to the children. The registered manager ensures that the home's plan effectively reflects the plans of the local authority and will challenge plans that she feels do not reflect the needs of the children.

The registered manager is confident at identifying the strengths and areas of improvement for the home. This allows for her to effectively review the quality of care provided to the 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, The 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 notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there. (Regulation 40 (4)(c))	1 April 2026

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: 2536395

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Inspire Childrens Services Ltd

Registered provider address: Inspire Childrens Services, Unit 3, Craig Court, Standish Street, St. Helens, Merseyside WA10 1GJ

Responsible individual: Paul Keogh

Registered manager: Donna Marner

Inspector

Rose Maddocks, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2026