

2547560

Registered provider: OwnLife Residential Ltd

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home provides care for up to three children with social and emotional difficulties.

The home registered with Ofsted in October 2019. The manager registered with Ofsted in October 2021.

Three children were living in the home at the time of this inspection.

This inspection was carried out to address specific concerns received by Ofsted in relation to a serious incident reported by the registered manager. Inspectors were aware during this inspection that the incident is under investigation by the appropriate authorities. While Ofsted do not have the power to investigate incidents of this kind, actions taken by the setting in response to the incident were considered alongside other evidence available at the time of the inspection to inform the inspectors' judgements.

Inspection date: 3 February 2025

Date of last inspection: 5 June 2024

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector has looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of the children in the home.

Children's views are valued, and they are listened to. Children have opportunities to contribute to and are involved in making decisions about their home. Children are relaxed living at the home, and engage well with staff.

The home is well maintained, and the staff work hard to make it a comfortable, homely environment. The children have bedrooms which they say they 'love' and are personalised.

Children have regular key-work sessions with staff, and they participate in these well. These discussions support children to make progressive steps. They help children to understand life events, make future plans and learn about keeping safe.

The manager and staff work with children to support them to understand their vulnerabilities. Staff complete mandatory and specialist training relevant to each child's specific needs. Staff are skilled at managing complexity and risks for children while providing individualised care and support.

When children go missing from the home, managers and staff respond promptly and continually make attempts to support children to return to the home safely. The manager and staff use a multi-agency approach to managing risk. This is well documented in children's records.

The manager has good oversight of incidents and is reflective. The manager is ambitious for children. The manager advocates for children to ensure that they have access to a range of services to support their individual needs.

The manager upholds their responsibility as a safeguarding practitioner. They are responsive to allegations made against staff and work collaboratively with relevant professionals. This includes consultation with the local authority designated officer and police. The manager ensures that children's risk and safety plans are kept up to date. This ensures that staff are informed with current guidance to follow relating to increasing levels of risk.

The manager offers a good level of support to the staff team. Staff can raise concerns, which the manager is responsive to. Staff benefit from regular team meetings and supervision. These provide opportunities for staff to get together to holistically review children's care and individually receive feedback and reflect on it so that they can develop in their practice.

Children's moves into the home are well planned. The manager completes a detailed report, which includes thorough analysis and assessment of the children's needs.

The manager endeavours to work with professionals and makes plans to ensure that children visit and have introductions before they move into the home.

The manager has good oversight of the day-to-day functioning of the home. Monthly audits help the manager to identify strengths and weaknesses in the home. Any shortfalls are quickly identified and appropriately addressed.

No requirements or recommendations have been raised at this inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
05/06/2024	Full	Good
24/01/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
22/02/2023	Full	Good
21/04/2021	Full	Good

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2547560

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: OwnLife Residential Ltd

Registered provider address: OwnLife Ltd, Legion House, 75 Lower Road, Kenley
CR8 5NH

Responsible individual: David Hastings

Registered manager: Gamila Higgins

Inspector

Helen Daniel, Social Care Inspector

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