

2547637

Registered provider: James Kids Home Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run children's home provides medium- to long-term care for children with learning disabilities.

The manager registered with Ofsted in November 2019.

Inspection dates: 20 and 21 July 2022

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: 10 May 2021

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/05/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children living in the home make good progress from their starting points. Children build trusting relationships with the staff. This helps them settle in the home, grow in confidence and establish good daily routines. The home is welcoming and homely, children and staff sit together in the lounge and dining room and enjoy each other's company.

Leaders and managers work with the staff team to monitor children's progress, no matter how small. Children are helped to choose what areas they would like to make progress in.

The knowledgeable staff team provide children with personalised support. Staff help children to reduce any anxieties or worries that they may have. As a result, children's sleep patterns, personal care routines, and social and communication skills improve. For example, they learn how to take turns and manage their feelings. A professional said, 'Staff do brilliant work with the children.'

Children learn and develop through fun activities. The home's activity coordinator builds individualised programmes for every child to help develop their social and independence skills. Children develop life skills and they are helped to move on from the home when they are ready. Children enjoy attending farewell parties that celebrate their time living in the home.

The child-centred staff ensure that children's achievements are celebrated and appropriately rewarded. Children receive certificates or chosen treats to mark their achievements. Staff successfully encourage children to maintain and develop new hobbies and interests, such as gym sessions or theatre groups.

Children's school attendance is good and they are learning and making noticeable progress. When needed, extra tutoring is sourced to support children with their exams. Additionally, professional mentors enhance children's knowledge of future employment opportunities and careers.

The home is a welcoming environment. However, at the time of the inspection, there were some minor maintenance works being undertaken in the home. This included repairs to a shower and a curtain rail, and the installation of a missing door finger guard.

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

Staff know and understand the risks to children. Children's risk assessments are dynamic which ensures that plans to reduce any new or emerging risks are in place. These plans are detailed and effective. Children living in the home are protected from harm. Staff help children to learn to keep themselves safe and children say that

they feel safe. Children do not go missing from the home and there has only been one episode of physical restraint since the last inspection.

Staff know the children's particular communication styles. This means that children, including those who are non-verbal, can participate in the day-to-day running of the home and decisions about their care. However, when a child refuses to contribute to their care plan, there is no record to evidence that they were given this opportunity.

If children become unsettled, staff encourage them to talk about their feelings. This helps children to develop strategies to manage difficult emotions. Children are involved in preparing their own behaviour contracts. This means that they understand the expectation and boundaries in the home.

Children know how to complain and allegations and complaints are taken seriously. Children are always helped to understand the outcome of any complaint with a personalised letter. Children are also offered mediation to support them to resolve situations and repair relationships.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager is passionate about the home. She encourages a culture of high expectations and aspirations for every child living in the home. This ensures a high standard of individualised care for children.

Staff are suitably vetted before they start working at the home. This helps to ensure that only suitable adults work in the home.

Staff induction and training is thorough and detailed. All staff are suitably qualified and trained to meet the needs of the children living in the home. Leaders and managers support staff to develop their careers including progression to management qualifications. Staff describe the registered manager as an 'excellent mentor', who is always available to offer support and guidance.

Leaders and managers work proactively with all relevant agencies and professionals to ensure that children receive the support that they need in a timely way.

The registered manager ensures that the home's procedures and policies are kept up to date. She regularly reviews all incidents in the home to identify any emerging patterns in children's behaviour. This helps staff to continuously adapt to the children's changing needs.

Leaders and managers regularly review the quality of care provided to children. However, the six-monthly quality of care review does not include sufficient feedback from children, stakeholders, parents and staff. This could limit the home's continuous development.

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the home is a nurturing, supportive and safe environment. In particular, the registered person should ensure that the bathroom and bedroom curtain rails are repaired or replaced and a finger guard is attached to the bathroom door. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)
- Children should be encouraged and supported by staff to view and contribute to their records. The registered person should ensure that a written record is kept if a child refuses to view or contribute to their records. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 58, paragraph 11.19)
- Regulation 45 sets out requirements for the registered person to have a system in place which allows them to monitor the matters set out in the regulation at least once every six months. The registered person should ensure that the feedback and opinions of the children, their parents, placing authorities and staff are explicit in the quality of care review. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 64, paragraph 15.2)

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: 2547637

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: James Kids Home Ltd

Responsible individual: Cheryl Carter

Registered manager: Osareme Ikhinmwin

Inspector

Victoria Jones, Social Care Inspector

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