

2547761

Registered provider: Cherish Childrens Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A private provider operates this home. The home is registered to provide care for up to three children with social and emotional difficulties. There were three children living in the home at the time of the inspection.

The manager registered with Ofsted in July 2023.

Inspection dates: 31 October and 1 November 2023

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

How well children and young people are helped and protected **requires improvement to be 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: 24 January 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/01/2023	Full	Good
17/11/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children benefit from a management and staff team that knows the children well. Social care and education professionals confirmed that children's needs are understood and children progress.

Staff promote education in line with children's interests and abilities. Some children are attending full-time education. However, not all the children access formal education or educational activities in school time. This means that some of the children are missing opportunities to learn and to socialise with peers.

Staff support children to see their families, in line with their care plans. Staff take the children to see family members. Family time is important for children's identity and sense of belonging.

Staff encourage and take part in enjoyable activities with the children. Children have been on holidays and day trips. They celebrate special times of the year. Children play with staff and have fun. This helps them to build positive childhood memories and experiences.

Staff understand the individual health needs of children. Some children require medical and specialist dental treatment. Staff ensure that the right treatment plans are in place to meet these health needs. Children are healthy and healthy living is promoted.

Staff support children to develop independence skills. They teach children to cook their meals, manage a budget and make their own appointments. This means that children learn skills to care for themselves.

The home is warm and welcoming. Children who are new to the home have not decided how their bedrooms will be decorated. This means that their rooms are not yet personalised.

One of the children said that they did not know how to make a complaint. This means that if they are unhappy about their care, they do not know how to ask for this to be changed.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: requires improvement to be good

Following the last inspection, the home went through a period of instability. This is because staff were unable to manage some children's risk-taking behaviours. This led to several significant safeguarding incidents.

Not all safeguarding incidents were reported accurately to the regulator. This does not enable the regulator to have clear oversight of actions to manage safeguarding incidents.

Recently, the home has experienced a sustained period of stability. There have been no incidents of children going missing from the home. This shows that children want to be in the home and with the staff.

Behaviour management is good. Staff help children to understand their emotions and manage their behaviours. One social worker said, '[Name of child] is much calmer, always in good spirits. He is neat and clean. He is safe and well supervised.'

Safeguarding records are not always clear. There are some inconsistencies in the recording and reporting of incidents. Managers failed to analyse safeguarding incidents. This means that lessons were not learned, and mistakes were repeated. This led to children being at risk of significant harm.

Staff complete regular health and safety checks and fire drills. This ensures that the children live in a safe environment.

The provider ensures that the recruitment of new staff is rigorous. Vetting and checking the employment history and status of new staff ensure that they are suitable to work with children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager has an accurate oversight of the operation of the home. The manager understands each child's needs and plans. He has worked hard to achieve a calm and settled home that offers supportive care to children.

A Senior Residential Childrens Practitioner supports the management of the home. They have a background in psychology. The home's therapist provides clinical supervision to the them. This means that they have daily support and guidance. This supports the team to put in place the therapeutic approach of the home.

Staff said that they enjoy working in the home and they feel supported by the management team. Staff have regular supervision. This enables them to discuss the children in their care. This benefits the children, as staff can reflect on the effectiveness of care provision.

Staff access a range of training that gives them the knowledge and skills to meet the needs of the children. However, some staff have not received important training, which means that they do not understand the individual behaviours of the children. This fails to ensure consistent team practice.

Internal and external monitoring of the home enables the manager to understand the home's strengths and weaknesses. In addition, the leadership team undertakes regular audits of the home. This supports the manager and staff team to maintain good-quality care for 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 any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(e)) In particular, ensure that accurate information is shared with the regulator when there has been a serious incident.	30 November 2023
The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii))	30 November 2023

In particular, ensure that the children's individual risk-management plans provide staff with clear strategies to manage and reduce risk. In addition, ensure that managers and staff follow safeguarding procedures in response to incidents.	
The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(c)(h)) In particular, the provider must ensure that staff are provided with additional training to meet the individual needs of the children.	30 November 2023
The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— support each child's learning and development, including helping the child to develop independent study skills and, where appropriate, helping the child to complete independent study;	30 November 2023

understand the barriers to learning that each child may face and take appropriate action to help the child to overcome any such barriers;

promote opportunities for each child to learn informally;

help each child who is above compulsory school age to participate in further education, training or employment and to prepare for future care, education or employment.
(Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(ii)(iii)(v)(ix))

In particular, the registered provider must ensure that when children are not in education, there is clear structure and routine in place at the home to support independent study.

Recommendation

- The registered provider should ensure that children are aware of the complaints procedure and reminded of this when necessary. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 22, paragraph 4.13)

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: 2547761

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Cherish Childrens Care Ltd

Registered provider address: 8, Skyways Commercial Campus, Amy Johnson Way, Blackpool FY4 3RS

Responsible individual: Alexandra Wood

Registered manager: Peter Haggan

Inspector

Cathy Wilkins, Social Care Inspector

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