

2553861

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is privately owned. It is registered to provide care for three children who may have behavioural, emotional, social difficulties and learning disabilities.

Since the last inspection, six children have moved into the home and five children have moved out of the home. There was one child living at the home at the time of the inspection. The inspector spoke with the child during the inspection.

The manager is registered with Ofsted.

Inspection dates: 1 and 2 July 2025

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 June 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/06/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
12/03/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
11/01/2023	Full	Good
11/05/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children enjoy positive relationships with staff. Staff know children well. Staff and children spend time together, such as playing board games. This helps children to settle quickly and feel relaxed and happy in the home.

Staff support children to do well in education considering their starting points. One child who is unable to attend school is being creatively encouraged to engage in educational activities. The manager is proactive in applying for school places and is a strong advocate. Staff understand the barriers to learning and are helping the child develop confidence in preparation for formal education.

The manager ensures that children see people who are important to them. Staff help children to develop positive relationships with friends and family. For example, one child was supported to visit their boyfriend independently and another child was supported to access therapy with their parent, helping to rebuild and strengthen their relationship.

Children enjoy a range of activities, such as swimming, laser tag, horse riding and piano lessons. This helps to improve children's confidence and self-esteem and gives them a sense of achievement.

Children's moves into and out of the home are well planned and considered. Two children have been successfully supported to move back with their family. Other children have been helped to move onto semi-independent living. These transitions are managed sensitively so that children experience positive endings. Where appropriate, staff visit children and stay in contact with them.

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

Staff know the risks children can be exposed to. The manager holds regular meetings with social workers to agree safety plans. Behaviour support plans and risk management plans are detailed and give staff appropriate guidance. Staff are competent and respond effectively to safeguarding incidents. This ensures that risks to children reduce.

Staff respond well to children who go missing from the home. Staff liaise effectively with relevant professionals such as social workers and the police. The manager has positive relationships with the local police. Staff receive specialist training from the police to strengthen their practice. This is helping to reduce the risk of children going missing from the home.

Staff occasionally use physical intervention as a last resort to keep children and others safe. The least force and measure are used. The manager speaks with staff and children after each incident. The manager has good oversight and uses learning to improve practice.

The manager is a behaviour support trainer. She trains the staff to understand a trauma-informed approach to behaviour management. Staff use positive reinforcements such as individualised incentives. These are effective and help children to make better choices.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager is knowledgeable and competent. She is making progress towards the relevant qualification. She is supported by an experienced responsible individual. The manager has effective oversight of the home and knows what is happening daily.

Staff are well trained and feel competent in their role. Staff have access to training in relation to children's individual needs. The manager and staff also receive tailored training from a psychotherapist. As a result, staff have a deep understanding of the child's needs and feel well supported in their role.

Staff have regular supervision. Staff feel these are helpful and support their personal development. All staff are supported to achieve the relevant qualification within the required timescales.

The manager promotes staff well-being. Staff have access to a clinician who provides one-to-one emotional support. Staff also have access to external counselling sessions and a well-being service. Most staff feel listened to and well supported.

The independent visitor's monthly reports are comprehensive, and he regularly consults with children. However, he has not consulted with professionals or parents for long periods of time. The manager has not consistently supported the independent person to obtain this feedback. This means that external views have not received independent scrutiny.

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 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— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(h)) In particular, the manager should ensure that the independent person regularly consults with parents and professionals.	1 September 2025

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: 2553861

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Registered provider address: Suite 1 & 5, Riverside Business Centre, Foundry Lane, Milford, Belper DE56 0RN

Responsible individual: Chelsea Lightfoot

Registered manager: Danika Jackson

Inspector

Amy Miles, Social Care Inspector

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