

2555505

Registered provider: Aspiration House Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately operated and provides care for up to eight children with special educational needs, autism spectrum disorder and/or atypical autism, special educational needs/disabilities SEND.

At the time of the inspection, three children were living at the home, and they contributed to the inspection.

An interim manager has been in post since November 2025 and is not yet registered with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 13 January 2026

This monitoring visit

This visit was in response to concerns raised to Ofsted by an external professional. These concerns were that the home had been without heating and hot water, that children do not have adequate outdoor clothing for the cold weather. The complainant also shared that there are maintenance issues within the home environment that were not being rectified.

An interim manager is in day-to-day charge of the home. The manager is supported by senior leaders in the organisation who visit weekly. When not onsite, senior leaders are contactable by phone.

Staff and children have good relationships. The children have enquiring minds and ask a lot of questions of staff. Staff are patient in their responses to the children and repeat information to ensure that children fully understand what is being communicated.

The home was without heating and hot water for a period of 10 days. A communication problem resulted in no oil being delivered and the home running out

of oil for the heating system. Efforts were made to get a delivery as soon as possible, but oil was not delivered quickly. The interim manager and senior leaders advised that this was the first time the home had run out of oil. Hot water was available in 2 locations on the site. However, there was no heating on the whole site. Currently, there are 8 radiators in the home that are not working. This information was not known by the interim manager and senior leaders.

The areas used by children were heated with fan heaters. A specific risk assessment was completed, for using fan heaters, and shared with staff. The risk assessment directed staff to complete regular checks. However, managers failed to outline how the checks should be recorded, meaning there is no record of these being completed. During the inspection the interim manager shared a recording sheet that outlined what actions staff should take if the same issue arose in the future.

Alternative shower arrangements were made for two of the children effected. Staff prepared the children for this adjustment to their routine. They undertook individualised sessions with the children to explain why their routine had to alter. The children responded well to this change and successfully had showers in an alternative known environment.

The interim manager and senior leaders are yet to establish a system to ensure that the home does not run out of oil in the future.

The interim manager and senior leaders failed to communicate the issues affecting the home and the children to parents and local authorities. It would be an expectation that this would have been shared so all involved were aware of issues impacting on the children.

The children continue to enjoy a variety of activities out in the community. When children go out on colder days, they wear appropriate clothing to ensure they remain warm. Staff will advise children to keep as warm as possible and for example, if a child doesn't choose to wear their gloves, staff advise them to put their hands in their pockets.

To support the interim manager in their oversight of the ongoing environmental repairs, a maintenance log has been developed. Senior leaders acknowledge the delays in ensuring repairs are completed. The current system in place, should enable issues to be resolved promptly.

Requirements from the last inspection were not reviewed during this visit, so they will remain.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
19/08/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
14/05/2024	Full	Good
02/05/2023	Full	Good
17/05/2022	Full	Good

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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
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— understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; and that the premises used for the purpose of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a) (5)(d)) This specifically relates to the registered person ensuring that the home is maintained, actioning any outstanding repairs to the home and ensuring that the living accommodation is safe for the children. In addition, staff must record any instances of physical intervention.	2 March 2026
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— ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child;	2 March 2026

ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(d)) This specifically refers to sufficient staff being on duty to manage the children's assessed needs and risks. In addition, the registered person needs to ensure that all staff are suitably trained and qualified to undertake physical interventions.	
The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. In particular the registered person must ensure that— medicine which is prescribed for a child is administered as prescribed to the child for whom it is prescribed and to no other child; and a record is kept of the administration of medicine to each child. (Regulation 23 (1) (2)(b)(c)) This specifically relates to the registered person ensuring that all staff are competent in administering medication to ensure consistent practice and avoid errors being made and for children to receive the right medication at the right time. In addition, the medication policy needs to reflect the range of potential medication errors.	2 March 2026
An individual may only carry on a children's home if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (5). The requirements are that— the individual is of integrity and good character; full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2; the individual is mentally and physically fit to carry on the home; and the individual is financially fit to carry on the home. A responsible individual must— satisfy the requirements in paragraph (5)(a) to (c); and	2 March 2026

have the capacity, experience and skills to supervise the management of the home, or the homes, in respect of which the responsible individual is nominated.
(Regulation 26 (1) (5)(a)(b)(c)(d) (7)(a)(b))

This specifically relates to the responsible individual undertaking their role in accordance with regulations.

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2555505

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Aspiration House Limited

Registered provider address: 2nd Floor, 9 Portland Street, Manchester M1 3BE

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Lizette Watts, Social Care Inspector

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