

258089

Registered provider: Idem Living Ltd

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private organisation. It is registered to care for up to two children who may have social and emotional difficulties and/or special educational needs and/or disabilities. At the time of this inspection, one child was living in the home.

The home was registered with Ofsted in April 2020 but was closed temporarily by the provider in May 2021. At that time, Ofsted imposed a condition requiring the provider to give three months' notice before admitting children into the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in July 2023, the same time that the home commenced operating again.

Inspection date: 10 March 2025

Date of last inspection: 10 September 2024

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be 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

There were no serious or widespread concerns identified in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

One child has continued to live at the home since the previous inspection.

The child appeared happy in the home and was seen to be supported by staff to go out for the day. The staff are developing their relationships with the child and are providing positive levels of nurturing care to them. One professional commented that the staff have a wonderful relationship with the child and that a lot of the child's behaviour is about them seeking a connection with staff. The child has been supported to engage in educational activities and to attend health appointments that are required.

Leaders and managers have made progress in requesting specialist assessments for the child so that they can better understand their needs. One of these assessments has already been completed and another is in progress. Advice and recommendations from these assessments have not yet been implemented into the child's care plans. Education is also not yet in place for the child.

Improvements have been made to some areas of the home. The lounge appeared clean, warm and comfortable; it has been newly decorated. There was a comfortable sofa to sit on, and space for the child to play. Pictures were seen on the walls that made this room feel more homely. Other areas of the home are not as well maintained. The walls in other rooms have not been repainted, and the pictures on the walls are not suitable for the age and stage of development of the child. There was a hole in the ceiling of the bathroom that needed to be repaired, and some of the furniture was damaged.

The child is currently sleeping in the lounge on the sofa or on a mattress on the floor. Leaders and managers are looking at how to address this, and a new specialist bed has been ordered for the child. The child has regressed with their toileting needs, and managers are looking at ways to support the child with this.

When the child tried to hold onto another child in the local community, managers reflected on this incident with the staff so that they could learn from what happened. Managers are thoughtful about safer plans being developed for when the child has days out in the future. The manager has developed strategies to support staff with this, and changes have been made to the child's care plans.

There have been several medication errors identified since the last inspection, but these did not impact on the care of the child. Managers have completed audits to better understand what has happened. Relevant additional training has been provided to staff and managers are monitoring this practice. There has been improvement seen in medication practice over the last two months.

When concerns have been identified about staff practice, managers have taken prompt action to address this. Managers have sought advice appropriately from external agencies and further investigation is being completed.

Communication with families, social workers and other professionals is timely and effective in helping to keep the child safe and promoting their welfare. There are regular multi-agency meetings taking place.

Leaders and managers have not taken sufficient steps to ensure that the child is consistently making progress.

Advice and recommendations from other professionals have not been implemented into the child's plans, and this is impacting on the progress that the child is making.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/09/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be 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 within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child; and enable each child to participate in the daily life of the home. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(i)(ii)) The registered person should ensure that the home environment is well maintained and homely throughout. Small improvements and repairs need to be made throughout the home, such as repairing loose fixtures and fittings, repainting marked or damaged areas and improving the pictures in the home so they are age-appropriate. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	1 June 2025
The health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met; children receive advice, services and support in relation to their health and well-being; and	1 June 2025

children are helped to lead healthy lifestyles.

In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—

that staff help each child to—

achieve the health and well-being outcomes that are recorded in the child's relevant plans;

understand the child's health and well-being needs and the options that are available in relation to the child's health and well-being, in a way that is appropriate to the child's age and understanding;

take part in activities, and attend any appointments, for the purpose of meeting the child's health and well-being needs; and

understand and develop skills to promote the child's well-being. (Regulation 10 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv))

The registered manager should ensure that all relevant professionals complete assessments and are involved, as appropriate, in care planning and review of services and provisions for the child. Any recommendations made by professionals need to be fully implemented into the care plans for the child.

Additionally, the registered manager should escalate concerns when the work of external agencies falls below expectations and this impacts on services or care that can be provided for the child.

This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2580890

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Idem Living Ltd

Registered provider address: 6 Stable Court Business Centre, Water Lane,
Tarbock Green, Prescott L35 1RD

Responsible individual: Julie Wright

Registered manager: John Collings

Inspector

Sarah Sheffield, Social Care Inspector

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