

2580890

Registered provider: Idem Living Ltd

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a private provider who operates other homes in the South West and nationally. The home can provide care for two children, but at the time of this visit, there were no children 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: 14 March 2024

Date of last inspection: Not previously inspected

Judgement at last inspection: not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection: not applicable

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

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

There have not been any children living at this home since May 2021. Although the home has not had a full inspection previously, Ofsted have carried out assurance and monitoring visits. A monitoring visit was carried out on 6 July 2023, to assess the home's readiness to begin operating. No concerns were identified at that visit.

At the time of this visit, no children had yet moved in.

While the home has not been operating, leaders and managers have used the time effectively to get ready to care for children again.

Substantial improvements have been made to the environment. These include redecoration, new furnishings and a new kitchen, and the garden has been redesigned and landscaped. The home provides a spacious, warm and welcoming environment for children to live in.

During the home's temporary closure, leaders and managers carried out a detailed analysis as to what led to the breakdown of the previous children's placements. The outcome of this review has led to the admissions process being improved. More rigour is now applied in ensuring this is the right home for children and that the staff team can meet their needs. A significant development is ensuring leaders and managers receive all the required information about a child and show increased professional curiosity about their needs.

Since reopening, managers have offered two children places in this home. For one of these children, despite significant input from the staff team to support the child's move into the home, it did not come to fruition. However, the other child is due to move in shortly. The parent of this child is very positive about the team, especially the manager, and how they have supported them and their child with the moving-in plans. They feel this has been done sensitively, with care and consideration, recognising and alleviating the parents worries. All are looking forward to the move.

Staff speak positively about leaders and managers. They feel well supported in their roles, despite staff being dispersed to the organisation's other homes during the temporary closure. Staff have continued to have team meetings to maintain the links between themselves.

Staff receive regular, good-quality supervision that is reflective and supportive. Staff have received training to support them in their role.

Leaders, managers and staff are ready and excited to admit children back into the home.

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, Prescot L35 1RD

Responsible individual: Julie Wright

Registered manager: John Collings

Inspector

Wendy Anderson, Social Care Inspector

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