

2581237

Registered provider: Your Chapter Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a private company. It provides care for up to 8 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, 3 children were living in the home. The inspector spent time with 2 of the children.

There has been no registered manager since February 2026.

The home has a school on the same site, which children living in the home can attend. The inspector only inspected the social care provision on this site.

Inspection dates: 2 and 3 June 2026

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	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 20 January 2026

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
20/01/2026	Full	Requires improvement to be good
29/01/2025	Full	Good
06/02/2024	Full	Good
22/11/2022	Full	Good

Summary of findings

Children living in this home make progress across many aspects of their lives. They benefit from consistent care provided by staff who have a clear understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities. As a result of the support they receive, risks to children and others are reduced over time.

The absence of a registered manager has not resulted in children being placed at risk of harm. However, current management arrangements have not consistently ensured robust recording practices or effective oversight of incidents, and these areas require further strengthening.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, 4 children have moved on from the home. Three children returned to live closer to family members as they reached an age of greater independence. Senior leaders acknowledged that they were unable to safely meet one child's needs and worked with the placing authority to support a planned move. The welfare of all children was central to this decision-making. As a result, children experience positive endings to their time in the home.

Two children have moved into the home since the last inspection. The acting manager carried out thorough assessments of their needs, considering the skills and experience of the staff team, as well as the needs of children already living in the home. This careful planning helps to ensure that children can live together safely.

Children's physical and emotional health needs are well recognised and supported by staff. They attend necessary health appointments, and staff respond promptly to emerging concerns. For example, when one child experienced dental pain, staff ensured that they were seen quickly by a professional.

Children attend the on-site school, and staff promote the importance of positive routines and regular attendance. Barriers to education for one child are well understood. When the child experiences difficulties attending school, staff provide informal learning opportunities and engagement in constructive activities. Regular communication between care staff and education professionals ensures a coordinated and holistic approach to supporting children's progress.

Children are encouraged to spend time with their family members, with arrangements carefully planned in partnership with placing authorities. Staff regularly support one child to travel significant distances to maintain important family relationships. Managers and staff build positive relationships with family members through consistent communication, ensuring that children remain connected to those who are important to them.

The home is spacious and provides children with areas to spend time alone and together with staff. Communal areas are clean and well presented, and furnishings create a comfortable, welcoming home for children. Any maintenance issues are addressed promptly. Children's bedrooms are personalised, and they take pride in these spaces.

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

Children report feeling safe living in the home. Staff develop positive and trusting relationships, enabling children to express any worries or concerns. When children speak about their past experiences, staff respond with sensitivity.

Staff support children to manage difficult emotions during times of distress. When physical intervention has been necessary, it has been proportionate to the level of risk. Police assistance has been appropriately sought when required to maintain the safety of children and staff. Following incidents, managers speak with children and evaluate staff practice to ensure that there is learning and reflection.

Risk assessments are up to date and reflect children's known risks and vulnerabilities. In addition, specialist assessments are carried out by a commissioned therapeutic service. This support helps staff to understand the underlying reasons for children's behaviours and informs appropriate responses. Staff are clear about the actions required to keep children safe.

Children rarely go missing from the home. Since the last inspection, one child has been missing on 2 occasions. On each occasion, staff followed the home's missing-from-home protocol, and relevant safeguarding professionals were notified promptly. The child was warmly welcomed back, and managers ensured that independent return home interviews were carried out to help understand the reasons for the child going missing.

Children's views, wishes and feelings about their care are regularly sought and responded to. Staff engage children in discussions about their day-to-day experiences. However, recording does not always capture significant conversations, including children's views and feelings about others moving into or leaving the home, and this is an area for improvement.

Since the last inspection, new staff have joined the home. Leaders follow safer recruitment practices to ensure that only suitable and appropriately vetted individuals are employed to work with children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: requires improvement to be good

At the time of this inspection, the home had been without a registered manager for 17 weeks. A new manager has been recruited but is not yet working in the home. The acting manager recently left their position. A new deputy manager is in post. Senior leaders ensure that they have a visible presence in the home, and support from other registered managers in the organisation is available to staff and children.

Leaders and managers review all incidents. However, this has not always been effective in identifying gaps and discrepancies in incident records. Some records of physical intervention do not include the information required by regulation. Inaccuracies in reporting limit leaders' ability to fully evaluate and analyse incidents.

Leaders and managers ensure that all staff complete a comprehensive induction and probationary period. Leaders have high expectations of staff, and probation and disciplinary processes are used effectively to monitor and develop staff practice. When there are insufficient staff numbers, agency staff are used. Leaders ensure that the same agency workers are used. This helps to ensure consistency of care for children.

Team meetings take place regularly and are used to build staff's knowledge and confidence. Staff receive training to help them develop the skills they need to meet children's individual needs. Suitably experienced managers provide regular reflective supervision.

Leaders and staff develop positive relationships with professionals and family members. External professionals speak highly of the care children receive and the progress they make. A social worker said, 'This is the home [name of child] needed. I would not hesitate to place a child there again.'

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 provider must appoint a person to manage the children's home if— there is no registered manager in respect of the home; and the registered provider— is an organisation or a partnership; does not satisfy regulation 28; or is not, or does not intend to be, in day-to-day charge of the home. If the registered provider appoints a person to manage the home, the registered provider must, without delay, give HMCI notice of— the name of the person so appointed; and the date on which the appointment takes effect. (Regulation 27 (1)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii) (2)(a)(b))	30 July 2026
The registered person must prepare and implement a policy ("the behaviour management policy") which sets out— how appropriate behaviour is to be promoted in the children's home; and the measures of control, discipline and restraint which may be used in relation to children in the home. The registered person must ensure that— within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes—	30 July 2026

the name of the child; details of the child's behaviour leading to the use of the measure; the date, time and location of the use of the measure; a description of the measure and its duration; details of any methods used or steps taken to avoid the need to use the measure; the name of the person who used the measure ("the user"), and of any other person present when the measure was used; the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; and a description of any injury to the child or any other person, and any medical treatment administered, as a result of the measure; within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person")— has spoken to the user about the measure; and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate. (Regulation 35 (1)(a)(b) (3)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii)(b)(i)(ii)) Specifically, the registered person must ensure that records of physical intervention are accurate and include all required details.	
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—	30 July 2026

ensure that staff work as a team where appropriate; understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(f)(h)) Specifically, the registered person must ensure that they have oversight of all work being carried out. All incident records must be thoroughly reviewed and evaluated to ensure accuracy and identify areas of learning to make continuous improvements.	
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Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff keep accurate and up-to-date records of important conversations held with children. This includes, but is not limited to, children's views, wishes and feelings about other children moving into the home and the support staff provide for children before they move on from the home. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

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: 2581237

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Your Chapter Limited

Registered provider address: Hobart House, Oakwater Avenue, Cheadle Royal
Business Park, Cheadle SK8 3SR

Responsible individual: Amanda Cooke

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Anna Belshaw, Social Care Inspector

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