

2582246

Registered provider: Aspris Care North West Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a private provider and is registered to care for up to two children who experience social and emotional difficulties.

The home and manager have been registered with Ofsted since March 2020.

There were no children living in the home at the time of the inspection.

Inspection dates: 11 and 12 November 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	requires improvement to be good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	requires improvement to be good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home is not yet delivering good help and care for children and young people. However, there are no serious or widespread failures that result in their welfare not being safeguarded or promoted.

Date of last inspection: 2 January 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
02/01/2025	Full	Good
24/07/2023	Full	Good
25/10/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
30/03/2022	Interim	Improved effectiveness

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: requires improvement to be good

Children have mixed experiences when moving in and out of the home. Leaders and managers did not ensure that one child's move into the home was appropriately planned. Ineffective care planning and poor leadership and management of the home had a negative impact on the child's experiences and progress.

Since the last inspection, two children have had positive moves on from the home. The staff supported the children to develop their independent living skills and encouraged children to move into independent living accommodation. One child said, 'All the staff there in that home have just been amazing. I don't think I would be where I am today without them.'

The home is nicely decorated, with a new carpet recently being fitted in the lounge. Staff support children to personalise their bedrooms when they move into the home.

Children are supported to attend education. Children's education providers are varied and depend on the children's individual needs. Providers include mainstream school, tutoring and online training. This supports children's continuing learning and development.

Children are supported to spend time with their family and friends. Staff support children to visit family members, including those who live a significant distance from the home. This supports children to maintain relationships with people who are important to them.

Children benefit from opportunities to enjoy different activities of their choice. Activities include playing board games, watching films, baking, attending concerts and going to theme parks. This helps children to increase their social interactions and to develop interpersonal skills.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: requires improvement to be good

Leaders and managers do not demonstrate a strong or proactive approach to risk management and harm reduction. For one child, their risk assessment does not include all identified areas of concern and identified strategies to reduce risk.

One child's risk assessment includes contradictory information. For example, safety plans completed by other relevant professionals are not included. This does not ensure that staff have clear strategies to support the child and reduce risk.

Strategies identified to reduce the risk for one child around mobile phone use and online safety have not been implemented. As a result, the child can use their device without any safety plans in place. This poses a risk to them.

The in-house therapist works closely with staff to provide support and guidance around the individual needs of the children. However, for one child, the in-house therapist has not been fully involved in decisions to support known behaviours.

When children go missing, staff are quick to respond. Partnership work with the police is effective, and staff actively ensure that the children return home as soon as possible. Staff have a good understanding of the missing-from-home procedures.

Safer recruitment processes are followed, which means that staff are recruited safely. Recruitment checks ensure that only suitable staff are employed to work with children in the home.

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

The home is managed by a dedicated and caring manager. The manager ensures that she is present in the home and available for staff and children. However, there is ineffective leadership and management of the home in the manager's absence.

There are gaps in the monitoring and review systems used by leaders and managers. The manager does not ensure that children's records are kept up to date. For example, there are no records of items being removed from a child's bedroom and the reasons for this. This does not help the manager to support staff to make continuous improvements in the quality of care they provide for children.

Serious incidents are not always reported to Ofsted. This means that the regulator does not have sufficient oversight and scrutiny of the management of significant incidents.

Staff are supported through regular reflective supervision and annual appraisals. Team meetings are held regularly and are an opportunity for staff to discuss children's individual needs and share evidence-based research.

Staff speak highly of the registered manager and the support she provides to the team. One staff member said, 'Our manager leads and sets a strong example and ensures that staff feel valued, confident and well guided in their roles.'

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 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; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(v)(vi)) The registered person must ensure that children's risk management plans include all relevant risks and identified strategies to reduce risk to children. The registered person must ensure that staff understand and implement identified strategies to support children and reduce the risk of harm when using mobile phones and online devices.	26 December 2025
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— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose;	26 December 2025

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. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(f)) The registered person must ensure that there is effective arrangements for management oversight when the registered manager is absent from the home. The registered person must ensure that there are effective systems in place for leaders to access relevant records in the absence of the registered manager. The registered person must ensure that leaders and managers have effective oversight of significant incidents and day-to-day experiences of children living at the home.	
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children’s home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that children are admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home’s statement of purpose. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)) The registered person must ensure that full consideration is given to the needs and risks of children before they move into the home.	26 December 2025
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation;	26 December 2025

an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious;

there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there;

a child protection enquiry involving a child —

is instigated; or

concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or

there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious.

(Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))

The registered person must ensure that when a serious incident occurs, a notification is made to Ofsted.

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: 2582246

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Aspris Care North West Limited

Registered provider address: 2 Barton Close, Grove Park, Enderby, Leicester LE19 1SJ

Responsible individual: Penelope Rafferty

Registered manager: Susan Towers

Inspectors

Stacey Ilaboya, Social Care Inspector
Karen Andrews, Social Care Inspector

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