

2590699

Registered provider: Care 4 Every Child Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and managed by a private organisation. It provides care for up to 4 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in March 2026.

At the time of the inspection 4 children were living in the home. The inspector spoke to 2 of the children.

Inspection dates: 8 and 9 April 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	inadequate
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	inadequate
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	inadequate
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There are serious and/or widespread failures that mean children and young people are not protected or their welfare is not promoted or safeguarded and/or the care and experiences of children and young people are poor and they are not making progress.

Date of last inspection: 18 June 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/06/2025	Full	Good
12/06/2024	Full	Good
11/10/2023	Full	Good
31/05/2022	Full	Good

Summary of findings

Children and professionals speak positively about the home and the care that children receive. However, significant shortfalls in safeguarding practice and leadership and management means that the safety and wellbeing of children is compromised and the quality of care is inadequate.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: inadequate

Shortfalls in the safeguarding practice and the leadership and management of the home have compromised progress for the children living in the home.

One child has moved into the home since the last inspection. Care planning for the child's move into the home was poor. Despite one child having a history of suicidal ideation connected to jumping from bridges and a recent threat to do so days before the inspection, leaders and managers have not implemented effective safety measures to mitigate this risk. For example, the child is allowed to have unsupervised time in the community despite the home's proximity to multiple bridges.

In addition, there is no evidence that the home's location risk assessment has been reviewed to consider the proximity of the local bridges to the home and the child's presenting risks.

Children are supported to attend school. However, for children who refuse to attend, leaders, managers and staff have failed to put in place a clear plan of alternative education that supports them to learn and develop in accordance with their age and ability.

The environment is homely and children's bedrooms are personalised to reflect their interests. However, staff do not ensure that bedrooms are maintained to an acceptable standard. In some rooms, the bins were overflowing and takeaway food packaging had been left in one child's bedroom.

Children spoken to spoke positively about their relationships with the staff and said that they are happy living in the home.

Staff work jointly with professionals to ensure that children enjoy safe, well-planned time with people that are important to them. Social workers spoken to, commended the staff for the care and support they provide to children.

Children contribute to decision making about their day-to-day care. They say that they are supported to partake in activities based on their individual interests.

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

Safeguarding practice in the home is not effective.

Staff have used physical interventions on children without the relevant training and guidance on how to do this safely. This compromises the safety and wellbeing of children and staff involved.

Missing from home incidents are not always managed effectively. For example, following staff being made aware that the child had been located in the community in the early hours of the morning, there were delays in the staff leaving the home to search for the child. This does not demonstrate that there is a proactive response to safeguarding concerns.

Leaders, managers and staff do not understand their role and responsibilities to protect children from harm, and they do not ensure that children are appropriately safeguarded. For one child, supervision in the community is limited to welfare calls despite their known risks, including misusing substances in the community and the child being physically assaulted. On one occasion, when the child did not respond to their welfare calls, staff did not complete a visual check to make sure that they were safe. Instead, staff waited until the child's curfew to collect them. At which point, the child was found in the community, under the influence of alcohol.

On a separate occasion, the same child was arrested due to assaulting a police officer whilst under the influence of alcohol in the community. Although staff are responsible for the child's welfare, they refused to act as the appropriate adult. The child required medical attention during their time in custody. However, the absence of the staff meant that the child was reliant on the police to help them to access this support.

Risk management plans are regularly reviewed. However, this process is ineffective. Risk assessments do not consistently identify children's known risks. They do not provide clear strategies on how staff should manage these risks and respond to incidents. This leaves children vulnerable to harm.

Leaders, managers and staff do not take effective action when there are concerns about children's welfare. Staff were notified of the possibility that one child had been drinking alcohol while in the community. Despite this, there were no attempts to locate the child. In addition, during a telephone conversation, staff did not use professional curiosity to explore this further with the child.

Leaders and managers ensure that all necessary checks are undertaken before staff can work in the home. This reduces the risk of children being cared for by unsuitable people.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: inadequate

The home is overseen by a registered manager who is supported in his role by the responsible individual and deputy manager.

Management oversight is ineffective. The registered manager's evaluation of incidents has failed to address shortfalls in the quality-of-care staff provide to children. This means that staff are not supported to improve and develop their approach to protecting children from harm.

Leaders and managers have failed to ensure that staff are suitably trained to meet the needs of children. Training in physical intervention has not been completed by all staff. Completion of this training has not been prioritised by leaders and managers, despite this being part of the home's mandatory training programme. In addition, staff have not received training in response to children's specific needs. This includes substance misuse and missing from home training. This increases the risk of children receiving insufficient care.

Staff say that they feel supported by leaders and managers and receive practice related supervision. Team meetings take place often and are well attended. However, these forums are not used effectively, to reflect on staff practice and identify areas for development. Consequently, opportunities to improve staff practice and support their progression are missed.

Leaders and managers listen to children and advocate on their behalf. For example, staff supported one child to appropriately challenge a care planning decision made by the child's placing authority. This meant the child was able to remain living in the home and helped them to feel valued.

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations including the quality standards'. The registered person 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— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; 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)(i)(iii)(v)(vi)) Leaders and managers must ensure that risk management plans accurately reflect children's risks and guide staff on how to respond effectively to these. Leaders and managers must ensure that children are appropriately supervised in the community, considering their age, presenting risks and vulnerabilities. Leaders and managers must ensure that there is an effective response when children go missing from the home. Leaders and managers must ensure that independent return home interviews are requested within 72 hours of children returning home, following a missing from home incident.	17 May 2026

Leaders and managers must ensure that physical interventions are only carried out by staff who have completed the provider's mandatory training.	
*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; ensure that staff work as a team where appropriate; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(c)). Leaders and managers must ensure that safeguarding incidents are thoroughly evaluated and scrutinised. Where shortfalls in practice are identified, there should be a process of reflection and learning with staff. Leaders and managers must ensure that staff complete the provider's mandatory physical intervention training and any training identified in response to children's specific needs.	17 May 2026
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home. Regulation 14(1)(a)).	1 July 2026
The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff—	1 July 2026

help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans; help a child who is excluded from school, or who is of compulsory school age but not attending school, to access educational and training support throughout the period of exclusion or non-attendance and to return to school as soon as possible; help each child who is above compulsory school age to participate in further education, training or employment and to prepare for future care, education or employment. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(i)(vii)). Specifically, leaders and managers must ensure that when children are not attending an education provision, there is a clear plan of alternative education that children can participate in daily.	
The registered person must review the appropriateness and suitability of the location of the premises used for the purposes of the children's home at least once in each calendar year taking into account the requirement in regulation 12(2)(c) (the protection of children standard). (Regulation 46(1)). Specifically, leaders and managers must consider the location of bridges in the area and how this risk is managed when children with suicidal ideation connected to bridges reside in the home.	1 July 2026

* These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that all areas of the home are well maintained. Children's bedrooms should be kept clean and tidy. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)

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: 2590699

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Care 4 Every Child Limited

Registered provider address: Allen Mills Howard & Co, Library Chambers, 48 Union Street, Hyde SK14 1ND

Responsible individual: Angela Hodgkinson

Registered manager: Jack Doolin

Inspector

Chibuzo Otache, Social Care Inspector

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