

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 run by a private organisation and is registered to care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The registered manager has been in post since 7 April 2023.

At the time of this inspection, there were four children living in the home.

Inspection dates: 11 and 12 October 2023

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	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 31 May 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
31/05/2022	Full	Good
02/11/2021	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
11/05/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children live in a warm and nurturing environment, cared for by staff who are responsive to their needs and speak positively about them. This helps children to feel secure and enables them to establish meaningful relationships with staff in the home. A teacher said about one child, 'She adores the staff and speaks about them in a warm way.'

Staff communicate with children in a manner that they can understand. Before moving into this home, one child had not benefited from structure and routine. The manager and staff understood that the child's verbal communication was limited and devised pictorial charts to help the child learn about acceptable behaviour and boundaries.

Staff encourage children to take part in activities that develop their independence skills, in line with their age and ability. For example, staff have prepared a weekly timetable for children to carry out tasks, such as setting the dinner table, cleaning their bedrooms and filling and emptying the dishwasher. Completion of such tasks gives children a sense of achievement.

Children are supported to see their family regularly when it is safe to do so. Staff understand the significance of establishing positive relationships with children's families to promote partnership working. One family member said, 'I get to see [name of child] once a week. Staff bring [name of child] to me and the manager rings me and lets me know how [name of child] is getting on.'

Staff take the health needs of children seriously. For example, staff supported one child who had a phobia of going to the dentist by buying a dental kit and allowing the child to practise being a dentist. The child eventually attended the dental appointment. One child who was overweight was given a healthy, balanced and structured diet. As a result of this, the child has lost weight.

However, leaders and managers have not ensured that a child's allergies are recorded in their individual health plans so that staff understand the symptoms of the child's allergies and how to respond.

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

Leaders, managers and staff understand their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children. They respond quickly to safeguarding incidents, such as self-harm, by implementing harm reduction strategies to protect children.

Staff have implemented a reward system that helps children recognise and understand right from wrong and acceptable social behaviours. This is having a positive effect on children's behaviour.

Leaders and managers take a proactive approach when investigating allegations related to staff conduct. They carry out a robust investigation in accordance with statutory guidance and ensure that staff are accountable for their practice. Consequently, children are more likely to consistently receive a high standard of care.

Children's individual risks are known by staff who care for them. Staff spoke confidently about risk management plans and it was evident that they understand children's triggers and the strategies to manage them.

Children can identify a trusted staff member that they can speak to if they have any concerns. They know who they can complain to if they have any worries. Children are therefore more likely to share their worries if they are unhappy and can then receive support.

When staff have previously worked with vulnerable adults or children, the reasons why their employment ended are not always verified.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is managed by an experienced and qualified manager who has a good understanding of the children's individual needs and how to meet them. The manager is supported by an assistant manager who is also suitably qualified and experienced.

Children are cared for by a stable staff team who know the children well. This means that children receive consistent care from people who can meet their needs.

Staff say they feel supported by leaders and managers. They benefit from regular supervision that is reflective and child-focused and also considers staff well-being, conduct and practice. Leaders and managers are approachable and staff are comfortable seeking advice about their practice.

Team meetings are held routinely. The manager uses this forum as an opportunity for learning and for staff to consider theoretical social care approaches that focus on effective team working.

The manager has effective systems in place to monitor outcomes for children and has created a system that supports his understanding of children's changing needs and what measures staff can take to support them.

The manager has formed positive and effective partnerships with agencies, and works collaboratively to ensure that children receive consistently good care. One external professional said, '[Name of manager] and staff are fantastic in terms of communication. Nothing is too much.'

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that details of children's allergies are recorded in their healthcare plans, along with information on the signs and symptoms and the action that staff should take if an incident should occur. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 34, paragraph 7.12)
- The registered person should ensure that when a person has previously worked with children or vulnerable adults, they take reasonable steps to try and verify why the employment ended. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.1)

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: Library Chambers, 48 Union Street, Hyde SK14 1ND

Responsible individual: Angela Hodgkinson

Registered manager: Christopher Roberts

Inspector

Chibuzo Otache, Social Care Inspector

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