

2592361

Registered provider: Raise House Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home provides care for up to three children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

A manager registered with Ofsted in February 2025.

At the time of the inspection, three children were living at the home.

The registered provider has appointed a responsible individual who has been in post for a number of months. Ofsted is checking whether this person has the relevant capacity, experience and skills to carry out the role.

Inspection dates: 20 and 21 October 2025

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: 28 October 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/10/2024	Full	Good
11/03/2024	Full	Good
24/05/2022	Full	Good
05/05/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

From the moment a child moves into the home, they begin to make progress across various areas of their lives. For example, they make improvements in their self-esteem, having increased confidence in speaking with staff and participating in shared mealtimes.

Children have individualised care plans that are detailed and are aligned with their local authority care plans. This demonstrates a joined-up approach to supporting children's progress.

Feedback from parents and professionals is positive and highlights good practice in information-sharing, with clear communication playing a key role in supporting children and their families.

Children have opportunities to have fun and participate in a range of activities. These include cooking meals together, having their hair done and engaging in community-based outings, such as visiting theme parks and go-karting.

Children report that they trust the staff, feel cared for and are confident in raising any concerns or worries.

Some areas of the home require attention to create a more comfortable and cosier environment that encourages children to spend time in communal spaces.

Children are supported in spending time with their families, including help with arranging family visits, activities and transport.

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

Risk assessments are up to date and reflect the children's care plans. When serious incidents occur, the risk assessments are updated to help staff understand how to support the children and reduce the likelihood of similar incidents by mitigating the risks.

When children go missing from the home, staff follow clear procedures. Records accurately document the details, including the length of time the child is missing. Staff work with a range of agencies to ensure that a multi-agency approach is used to reduce the risk of children going missing from the home. Staff spend time talking with children to help them understand the risks and to recognise their own vulnerabilities when they are in the community.

Staff attend a variety of safeguarding training courses, including those focused on the awareness of self-harm and radicalisation. They also receive specialist training to support children's specific needs. Staff use an empathetic and therapeutic approach when supporting children.

There is a stable staff team at the home and a consistent approach to managing behaviour. When children struggle to manage their emotions, staff take a proportionate approach, including the use of restorative-related consequences.

Staff advocate and escalate concerns when there are delays in children accessing other services. This child-centred approach ensures that children can access additional support services.

Managers have not always fulfilled the statutory duty to report notifications accurately.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Leaders and managers are ambitious for the children. They show a real sense of care, and this was observed throughout the inspection.

Since the last inspection in October 2024, leaders and managers have continued to provide consistent and effective care for the children.

Leaders and managers have a good understanding of the children's needs. They can explain plans for the children in detail, demonstrating reflective insight into each child's individual circumstances.

Leaders and managers ensure that staff receive regular supervision and annual appraisals. However, these sessions do not provide sufficient critical analysis regarding staff's learning and development. This results in missed opportunities for staff to grow and develop their practice.

Monitoring systems are in place. The manager has oversight of the standards of care in the home and makes sure that these align with the children's individualised care plans.

Leaders and managers have completed work to grow and develop the service and have a good insight into the strengths and weaknesses of themselves and the team.

The workforce development plan provides an evaluation of the staffing and how leaders and managers will oversee the service. However, some information is missing from the plan. For example, the plan does not have sufficient details regarding the experience and qualifications of staff and any training they have received.

When children's plans are not progressing, the manager challenges other agencies and holds them accountable. This ensures that children are at the centre of decisions.

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 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; - 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. A notification made under this regulation— - must include details of— - the matter; - the other persons, bodies or organisations (if any) who or which have been notified; and - any actions taken by the registered person as a result of the matter; must be made or confirmed in writing.	2 December 2025

(Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e) (5)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(b)) In particular, leaders and managers must ensure that they inform Ofsted of the full details of all serious incidents that have occurred in the home.	
The registered person must ensure that all employees— undertake appropriate continuing professional development; and receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33(4)(a)(b)) In particular, leaders and managers must ensure that staff receive high-quality supervision that helps them understand their practice and how it supports them in caring for children.	2 December 2025
The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children’s home’s overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; and use this understanding to deliver care that meets children’s needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— protect and promote each child’s welfare; treat each child with dignity and respect; ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child; and enable each child to participate in the daily life of the home. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b)(2)(ii)(iii)(c)(i)(ii)) In particular, leaders and managers must ensure that children are supported to live in an environment that is suitable and meets their needs.	2 December 2025

Recommendation

- The registered person should have a workforce plan that can fulfil the workforce-related requirements of regulation 16, schedule 1. The plan should include details of the staffing structure and the experience and qualifications of any training completed by staff to enable the delivery of the home's statement of purpose. There should be agreed timescales for staff to achieve their induction, probation and any core training (such as safeguarding, health and safety and mandatory qualifications). ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page, paragraph10.8)

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: 2592361

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Raise House Limited

Registered provider address: Riverdale House, 21A High Street, Wheathampstead,
St. Albans AL4 8BB

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Monet Tappin-Clarke

Inspector

Helen Daniel, Social Care Inspector

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