

2593579

Registered provider: Sunrise Hill Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run children's home provides care for up to five children with social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in July 2023.

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

Inspection dates: 13 and 14 January 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: 20 February 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/02/2024	Full	Good
07/02/2023	Full	Good
16/06/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children make good progress from their starting points. Staff are effective in building relationships with children, so they understand children's needs, likes and dislikes. Children who move into the home are warmly welcomed, and this helps them to settle. Managers undertake detailed assessments and thoroughly consider whether children can safely live together. Children live in a stable home environment. They are safe and have good relationships with each other.

Children are cared for by a confident and experienced staff team, whose members know the children very well. Children like staff and they build trusting relationships over time. Staff use good, comprehensive care plans which guide them on how best to care for children. They effectively apply incentives and consequences to support children. This helps children learn about the routines of the home and gain their own personal achievements.

When children move from the home, this is well-planned and sensitively conducted. One child has moved to a sister home, where they are familiar with the staff team. Another child is preparing to move to semi-independent accommodation and is working with staff on a semi-independence plan that has helped them to develop important life skills, such as budgeting and cooking. Staff have supported the child to enrol on an employability course, to gain a college placement and explore part-time employment.

The manager and staff work closely with teachers and the virtual school and advocate for children who experience barriers to learning. One child attends college and has gained a certificate in plumbing. One child who lacked confidence due to multiple changes in school now has a mainstream placement. Staff support the child to improve their attendance and engage the child in meaningful online learning as part of their return to education. The leadership and management team has employed a support worker who is a qualified teacher, to further help children to engage in education.

Children participate in a variety of activities which stimulate their social skills and widen their interests. Children enjoy new and exciting experiences together and recently went on their first holiday abroad. They are now making plans with staff for further trips.

Staff ensure that children maintain their family relationships. They support children with their family time arrangements, including overnight visits.

Children's views are respected, and this is reflected in children being willing and confident to express their views. Children confidently complain and staff ensure that children understand the outcome of their complaints.

The home is warm and welcoming, and staff take care to ensure that the home is maintained to a high standard. One child stated that they 'did not want to leave the

home as they were unlikely to find a home as nice as this'. Another child talked about their room being 'really nice and at the top of the house'.

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

When incidents occur, they are managed confidently by leaders and staff. The use of physical intervention is rare as staff effectively de-escalate situations. Staff show their concern for children, and children know that staff care about them. Following incidents, debriefs and restoration takes place with children and staff. This ensures that children can express themselves, reflect and learn. The manager reviews incidents and provides clear guidance to staff that supports continual improvement in practice.

Staff understand the risks that children can be exposed to. Children's risk assessments are detailed and kept up to date, so staff know how to respond. Staff use planned key-working sessions and informal discussions as an effective way of speaking with children about risks. They talk about a variety of topics, including keeping safe, anger management and life skills. Weekly targets are set and children receive feedback on their progress. This supports children's continual learning and development. Key-working records do not always reflect the child's voice, which is a missed opportunity to demonstrate how children's views are valued and respected.

Staff have a good understanding of contextual safeguarding and the risks posed to children in the community. Staff manage these risks appropriately. The manager and deputy manager have worked at the home for several years. They know the community and their knowledge about effective specialist services is strong. This means that children are linked to support services without delay. Leaders and managers attend monthly meetings with community police. This has led to effective responses from the police when children are missing from home and there are concerns of exploitation. As a result, children are more settled. Missing-from-home incidents are less frequent and risks of exploitation have significantly reduced.

Staff undertake room searches only when required in response to specific concerns. Detailed records are kept and children are aware when and why these searches take place. Managers evaluate room search records to ensure they are appropriate. They use this as an opportunity to provide further strategies for staff to keep children safe.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Leaders and managers are child focused, they are aspirational and they set high expectations for staff. The registered manager is a visual leader and supports staff to improve and develop their practice. Staff describe leaders and managers as encouraging, helpful, available and approachable. They enjoy working at the home and also feel supported by their colleagues. Children receive consistent care from a cohesive staff team.

Staff receive a comprehensive induction and training programme to ensure that they have the skills to meet the needs of children living in the home. This includes specific training in areas such as child sexual exploitation and substance misuse.

Managers encourage staff to professionally develop and seek further training opportunities. Staff benefit from purposeful reflective supervision. This and well-attended team meetings ensure that regular discussions occur about the progress of children, staff support, training and good practice.

The manager and staff work effectively in partnership with professionals. Social workers and independent reviewing officers are well informed about children's progress, as communication is good. The manager is a strong advocate for children and escalates concerns for children's individual support needs with partner agencies. This has led to a good response when children need support with education or are at risk of harm.

The manager refers allegations against staff to the local authority designated officer. Thorough investigations take place, and children are advised of outcomes in debrief meetings.

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure staff reflect children's views in key working records. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 22, paragraph 4.10)

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: 2593579

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Sunrise Hill Care Ltd

Registered provider address: 180 Muswell Hill Road, London N10 3NG

Responsible individual: Stellakis Miltiadous

Registered manager: Ken Uzuegbuna

Inspector

Angela Reid, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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