

2593651

Registered provider: Pathway Care Solutions Group Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is run by a private provider. It offers care for up to 4 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, 4 children were living at the home, and they were spoken with as part of the inspection.

The home was registered in July 2020 and the manager registered with Ofsted in January 2026.

Inspection dates: 9 and 10 June 2026

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: 26 August 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
26/08/2025	Full	Good
13/05/2025	Full	Inadequate
21/10/2024	Full	Good
08/08/2023	Full	Good

Summary of findings

Children are making progress in this home. They are supported by staff who prioritise building positive relationships. The children and staff have access to specialist clinical support to help embed the therapeutic model of care.

The children say they like living at the home and they feel safe. Professionals who work with children and staff say that they feel children are safe and making progress. Where there are identified risks, the managers take action to reduce these and promote safety.

Children who have now left the home have a positive experience of moving into the home. Where possible, transitions are well planned and considered.

There is an experienced manager in post. Staff say they feel well supported. Some review and monitoring processes need strengthening to ensure management oversight is effective.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children's needs are well understood by staff. Staff understand children's routines, relationships, interests, risks and support needs. This helps staff to provide care that is individualised and responsive to the children's day-to-day experiences.

Children are supported to develop a sense of belonging. Their bedrooms are personalised, and memory books capture activities and experiences they have had while living in the home. Children take part in activities in the home and community, which supports their social development and helps them build trusting relationships with staff.

Children's views are evident in plans, records and conversations with staff. Staff use children's wishes, feelings, interests and worries to inform support. This helps children feel listened to and supports work around family relationships, independence, emotional wellbeing and future planning.

Children's progress in education is variable. Some children attend education and staff are supportive of this. For some children, education remains a challenge. Managers are exploring alternative provision and need to continue monitoring whether current arrangements provide sufficient learning opportunities.

Staff understand children's health and emotional needs and respond to concerns when they arise. Medication arrangements are followed. However, children's progress is not yet consistent in all areas, and some review records do not clearly show the impact of staff support or children's progress over time.

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

Children say they feel safe. They confidently share worries with staff and can identify adults they trust. During one incident involving threats made to a child, the children sought support from staff and were reassured by their response. This means that children trust staff to listen and act to keep them safe.

Staff understand children's individual risks. Risk assessments are detailed, regularly reviewed, and updated when children's needs change. However, for 2 children, there is a specific safety plan in place to promote their safety. This plan was not always followed, which created the opportunity for increased risk.

Missing-from-home plans are clear and understood by staff. Return home interviews are requested. However, records do not always demonstrate that these interviews are completed or fully followed up by managers. This limits opportunities to understand the reasons why children are missing from home. It does not compromise children's immediate safety.

Staff monitor children. Staff are alerted to a child's movements by a door alarm sounding if a child leaves their room for any reason. The use of door alarms is not assessed or reviewed to address specific risks for children on an individual basis. In the evenings, children cannot be mobile in the home or use the bathroom without staff being alerted.

The use of consequences is rare, reflecting the positive relationships between staff and children. When used, these are fair and proportionate. Recording and management oversight do not always show a restorative approach or reflection.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager has improved the culture and day-to-day running of the home. Staff describe managers as visible, approachable and supportive. Staff report improved morale, clearer routines and a more nurturing environment for children.

Managers know children's individual needs, routines, education, family relationships, progress and vulnerabilities. This helps staff consider children's day-to-day experiences, relationships and support needs. Children moving into the home are considered through individual planning and impact risk assessments.

Systems are in place for safer recruitment, training, staffing handovers and medication checks. For example, structured handovers and medication checks help staff remain informed about children's daily needs, risks and arrangements.

Management oversight is improving but it is not yet consistently strong. Monitoring and review systems do not always capture all relevant information or identify actions needed in appropriate timescales.

Supervision takes place, but the quality of reflection and recording is inconsistent. Managers need to strengthen monitoring, recording and supervision so that risk management, children's progress and the impact of practice are clearer. Monitoring and recording are not yet sufficiently strong enough to identify the progress of children and the impact of practice.

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, The 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— understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(v)(b))	10 July 2026
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— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(h))	10 October 2026
The registered person may only use devices for the monitoring or surveillance of children if— the monitoring or surveillance is no more intrusive than necessary, having regard to the child's need for privacy. (Regulation 24 (1)(d))	10 October 2026

Recommendation

- The registered person should have systems in place so that all staff, including the manager, receive supervision of their practice, which allows them to reflect on their practice and the needs of the children assigned to their care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 61, paragraph 13.2)

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: 2593651

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Pathway Care Solutions Group Limited

Registered provider address: Keys Group, Maybrook House, Third Floor, Queensway, Halesowen B63 4AH

Responsible individual: Joanne Joseph

Registered manager: Joshua Mason

Inspectors

Kate Jackson, Social Care Inspector
Saira Rafiq, 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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