

2594061

Registered provider: Nestlings Care Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is privately owned. It is registered to provide care for up to three children.

The manager is experienced and suitably qualified for the role.

The home was registered with Ofsted in July 2020.

Due to COVID-19, at the request of the Secretary of State, we suspended all routine inspections of social care providers carried out under the social care common inspection framework (SCCIF) on 17 March 2020. We returned to routine SCCIF inspections on 12 April 2021.

We last visited the setting on 2 March 2021 to carry out a monitoring visit. The report is published on the Ofsted website.

Inspection dates: 27 and 28 October 2021

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account good

How well children and young people are helped and protected good

The effectiveness of leaders and managers good

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

Date of last inspection: not applicable

Overall judgement at last inspection: not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
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Not previously inspected		
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Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The quality of care provided by staff has made a real difference to the children who live there. The staff demonstrate skill in supporting and promoting the children's outcomes. As a result, the children have made good progress from their starting points.

The home environment is welcoming, comfortable and homely. The children have personalised their home and their bedrooms. The children creatively decorated the home for Halloween. One professional said: 'When I visit it is warm, friendly and there are activities going on.'

Care plans are good quality and children's progress is clearly recorded. This helps to ensure that staff know how to support the children.

The home has a therapeutic approach and children receive good support from mental health professionals and therapists. The manager and the staff also benefit from regular reflective therapeutic training sessions. Children said that they can talk to staff about any worries or concerns. This has helped children to make progress in relation to their confidence, self-esteem and emotional well-being.

The staff record regular key-work sessions with children. There is a wealth of information recorded about the work completed on matters such as health, staying safe, coping strategies and triggers, social skills and positive relationships. Records of these sessions provide a good insight into the support provided by staff and the progress made by the children.

Children told the inspector that they feel listened to, cared for and supported by staff. Staff actively seek children's views, wishes and feelings. This means that children have an active input into meetings, their own care plans and risk assessments. As a result, the children have good relationships with staff and feel safe.

The manager has shown ambition and realistic expectations for the children in the home. They have a good working relationship with education providers and have provided support to ensure that children benefit from education. The manager and the staff are supporting the children to enhance their education attainment.

Children benefit from having quality time with their family. Parents told the inspector that staff are friendly and support their relationship with their child. As a result of good communication between staff and parents, the children are settled at the home.

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

The registered manager ensures that children are well matched. Careful planning is evident, and children benefit from planned introduction and visits to the home prior to moving in. Transition planning is informed by good multi-agency consultation and communication. The children's needs, wishes and feelings are also considered in the matching process. This means that children feel at ease and begin to settle as soon as they arrive at the home.

The manager ensures that regular health and safety checks are completed in the home. Regular compliance audits are also undertaken to ensure that the home is safe and well run. Risk assessments relating to the home and activities are up to date and reviewed regularly. This means that staff have all the necessary up-to-date information and strategies they need to better protect the children.

The administration of medication is well managed. There are protocols in place with clear direction for staff to follow. The protocols have been developed in partnership with healthcare professionals. Medication is overseen and regularly audited by health professionals. Consequently, children's complex health needs are met safely.

New staff are recruited safely, and appropriate checks are carried out. There are no concerns in relation to safer recruitment practices. Staff receive good induction and training when they start their employment. This helps to ensure that children are looked after by people who are skilled and safe to do so.

There have been few incidents that have required physical intervention. Children have behaviour support plans, which are detailed and provide the staff with strategies that help them to support the children to regulate their emotions safely.

Staff know the children's behaviour well. They are attuned to subtle changes in children's behaviour and respond quickly in order to prevent any escalation in behaviour. When incidents do occur, there is clear management oversight, and reflective discussions are held with staff. Good support is also provided to children following an incident. This helps children to settle quickly.

There have been few missing from home incidents. Missing protocols are clear and up to date. Staff have a good understanding of what to do when a child goes missing from home, and they make extensive efforts to look for the children when they go missing from the home. Key-work sessions have taken place with children to discuss the reasons why they go missing. This has helped children to develop a better understanding of their personal safety.

Children's risk assessments are up to date and they outline all the known risk factors. Risk assessments set out detailed strategies that staff should follow to reduce known risks. Clear risk evaluation is evident. Risk assessments are regularly reviewed with good management oversight. This means that staff are provided with clear guidance, and they know how to respond should children be at risk of harm.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The team is led by a qualified and experienced registered manager who aspires for children. They have a detailed knowledge of every aspect of the home's operation, its strengths and areas for development. The manager is committed to achieving high standards of care for the children.

The quality of supervision is good, and staff benefit from regular reflective supervision. Staff also have regular team meetings and reflective learning sessions facilitated by health professionals. This ensures that staff are equipped with the skills needed to care for the children.

The registered manager has escalated concerns with placing authorities to ensure that children's needs are met. For example, the registered manager challenged a placing authority when social work support was not offered to a child. This challenge ensured that professional help was in place for the child.

Staff have access to regular training and development opportunities. Staff have had training in relation to specific children's needs. This helps to ensure that staff have the skills and the knowledge to meet the individual needs of the children. Mandatory training is up to date, and the manager is aware of when training requires updating. The manager ensures that staff have the skills and training to meet children's complex needs.

Communication with children's social workers and other professionals is good. Regular update reports are provided, and any incidents of concern are shared. This collaborative approach provides good support and guidance for the children.

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: 2594061

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Nestlings Care Ltd

Registered provider address: Suite 4, 1 Derby Street, Leigh, Lancashire WN7 4PF

Responsible individual: Anthony Thompson

Registered manager: Sharron Openshaw

Inspector

Brian Wood, Social Care Inspector

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