

2606062

Registered provider: Paramount Children's Services Limited

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 who may have social and emotional difficulties or learning disabilities. Three children were living at the home at the time of this inspection. Two children spoke to the inspectors.

This inspection was brought forward in order to address specific concerns or allegations received by Ofsted.

The manager registered with Ofsted in July 2022.

Inspection dates: 3 and 4 September 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: 6 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/11/2024	Full	Good
09/11/2023	Full	Outstanding
18/01/2023	Full	Outstanding
05/01/2022	Full	Outstanding

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, three children have moved out and two children have moved in. Two children who left the home recently lived at the home for over two years. Both children made considerable progress. These children still visit and continue keep in touch with the staff.

Children develop positive and trusting relationships with staff. This enables them to share their worries with the adults who care for them, which supports their emotional development and sense of stability. A child said, '[Member of staff name] has really helped me. She stays with me and treats me like her own.'

There are good arrangements to meet the health needs of children. Referrals to specialist services are made when required to support children's emotional well-being. However, some children have moved into the home without all relevant information being available. This has limited staff's ability to fully assess and prepare for their individual needs.

Staff and the manager work in partnership with relevant professionals. This ensures that they have the knowledge and skills to meet the children's specific needs. Staff respond to children's needs with sensitivity, ensuring that children are kept safe and feel well cared for.

Children have not always found it easy to engage in formal learning. The manager has worked proactively to identify suitable education provisions that meet each child's needs. While progress has been made in relation to most children's education, one child is not yet attending a school.

Children are supported to spend time with their family and friends. This contributes positively to children's sense of identity. Effective collaboration with children's families played a key role in enabling one child to return successfully to their family home.

Children are encouraged to personalise their bedrooms in line with their individual interests. This gives them a strong sense of belonging. While the home is generally well kept, some areas are not as well maintained as they could be.

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

Children are kept safe by staff who are attuned to their needs and understand their strengths and vulnerabilities. When there are concerns related to self-harm, staff ensure that children receive immediate first aid and medical attention if required. The response is tailored to the child's needs. Staff respond effectively to mitigate the risk of self-harm incidents.

When children go missing from the home, staff respond promptly and follow the home's missing-from-home protocols to ensure their safe return. Staff show genuine professional curiosity to understand the reasons why children go missing from the home, which helps them shape their ongoing support for children.

When allegations are made against staff, the manager takes swift action to address such matters professionally. The manager shares information promptly with all external safeguarding agencies, including the local authority designated officer, as well as conducting internal investigations when required. This promotes a culture of openness and transparency, ensuring that children's safety and welfare remain central to all decision-making.

Risk management plans are thorough and detailed for most of the children, reflecting their individual needs and known risks. However, for children who have recently moved into the home, some plans lack sufficient detail due to delays in information-sharing from the placing local authority. This impacts the staff's ability to fully assess and understand the needs of children.

Children are supported by staff to understand their right to complain and are encouraged to speak up when they have concerns. This supports children feeling listened to and enables them to express themselves. Concerns raised through complaints have been fully explored. Although some concerns were recognised, they did not raise safeguarding issues.

Staff promote positive behaviour by adopting a therapeutic and nurturing approach. Consistent relationships and a strong understanding of each child's individual needs support children to express their emotions in healthier ways. When consequences are used, which is rare, they are proportionate and understood by the child.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager is suitably qualified and brings a wealth of experience to the role. Their practice is very child focused and demonstrates a clear commitment to improving outcomes for children.

There is a dedicated and stable staff team who have shown resilience when responding to challenges. The team's stability and strong relationships have supported children to feel safe and secure. A staff member said, 'I know I will get the guidance and support I need.'

Staff have access to a wide variety of relevant training. The manager is committed to enhancing staff skills and knowledge through tailored training provided in line with the children's emerging needs. This is further enhanced through input from the organisation's psychologist, which deepens staff's understanding of the impact of trauma on the children's lived experiences. This gives the staff confidence in their roles as children's primary caregivers.

Staff receive regular supervision sessions which provide them with support, guidance and opportunities to reflect on their practice and the children's needs. Staff appraisals take place annually and are enriched with feedback from children.

Team meetings take place regularly and are an opportunity for the manager and staff to come together and share information, knowledge and skills. This helps to support consistent practice across the staff team.

The manager has established effective systems to monitor and evaluate staff's practice. This contributes to a strong culture of continuous learning and professional development.

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 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— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff are provided with clear strategies to manage and reduce risk. Additionally, the use of sensors on children's bedroom doors must be regularly reviewed.	29 September 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that when there is insufficient information available to fully understand a child's needs and associated risks, that this is escalated

without delay to the placing authority. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 11, paragraph 2.3)

- The registered person should ensure that each child has an up-to-date care plan from the local authority. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 56, paragraph 11.5)
- The registered person should ensure that when a child is not participating in full-time education, they are supported to sustain or regain their confidence in education and be engaged in suitable structured activities. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 28, paragraph 5.15)
- The registered person should ensure that the home is well maintained, by addressing areas where paintwork is worn and replacing flooring and carpets that are damaged. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)

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: 2606062

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Paramount Children's Services Limited

Registered provider address: 89 Briony Avenue, Hale, Altrincham WA15 8PZ

Responsible individual: Usman Chaudhri

Registered manager: Christopher Saddler

Inspectors

Anthony Kyem, Social Care Inspector

Shauna Morley, Social Care Inspector

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