

2624223

Registered provider: Active Young People Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is privately operated. It provides care for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The home provides long term residential care for up to six children. It also provides short break services for up to three children.

Six children were in the home during inspection. The inspector spent time with all the children.

Inspection date: 21 January 2026

Date of last inspection: 12 November 2025

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At these inspections, the inspector(s) evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Staff show warmth, love, and affection to the children. They know the children well and respond effectively to their subtle cues in communication. This helps ensure that children are happy and comfortable. One professional describes the care and relationships the child has with staff as "just beautiful".

Staff ensure that the home environment is well maintained and that it contains the specialist equipment required to meet the children's needs. Photographs are wall mounted throughout the home, and these capture the memories of children's experiences and contribute to a homely environment.

The manager and staff know the children and their health needs well. For one child, an updated care plan has been introduced which brings together their complex health needs and individualised care into a single document. This helps staff to familiarise themselves with the child's needs. Managers are in the process of introduced these plans for all children.

Staff do not plan activities for children, in line with individual targets. Staff do not record all activities undertaken or their benefits for children. Furthermore, the manager does not routinely review the effectiveness of children's activities to ensure they make progress in line with their care plan.

Staff medication practice continues to improve. There has been one medication error since the last inspection which was fully investigated and action taken to prevent future practice errors. However, the manager has not consistently undertaken weekly medication audits which prevents him being assured that practice is consistent with regulatory compliance.

Staff supervision does not take place regularly and the quality of these sessions is inconsistent. There is a lack of reflective discussion which prevents staff from developing their practice to better support children's development and improve their overall experiences.

The frequency and quality of the independent visitor's reports has improved. However, the manager does not have a consistently effective system for monitoring children's care. Management oversight is at times, missing or ineffective. This continues to limit the manager's ability to understand practice shortfalls and plan to improve these.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/11/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
24/02/2025	Full	Good
12/03/2024	Full	Good
21/03/2023	Full	Outstanding

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, 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— 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; 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)(i)(b). This requirement was raised at the last inspection and is restated.	30 March 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— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff work as a team where appropriate;	30 March 2026

ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child; understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(c)(d)(f)(h)) This requirement was raised at the last inspection and is restated.	
The enjoyment and achievement standard is that children take part in and benefit from a variety of activities that meet their needs and develop and reflect their creative, cultural, intellectual, physical and social interests and skills. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff help each child to— develop the child's interests and hobbies; participate in activities that the child enjoys and which meet and expand the child's interests and preferences; and make a positive contribution to the home and the wider community; and that each child has access to a range of activities that enable the child to pursue the child's interests and hobbies. (Regulation 9 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii) (b))	30 March 2026

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2624223

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Active Young People Limited

Registered provider address: 1 Suffolk Way, Sevenoaks TN13 1YL

Responsible individual: Gemma Burnside

Registered manager: Steven Boston

Inspector

Lisa Gordon, Social Care Inspector

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