

2631136

Registered provider: Safety and Focused Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home provides care for one child. The provider specialises in caring for children who may have social, emotional and mental health needs.

The manager registered with Ofsted in July 2021.

Inspection dates: 7 and 8 March 2023

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: 22 February 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
22/02/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Only one child has lived at the home alone since the last inspection. This has allowed the manager and staff to support the child to make measurable progress in all areas.

The child is encouraged and supported to be involved in all aspects of their care. Staff consult with the child regularly, which makes the child feel empowered. As a result, they are able to advocate for themselves actively and successfully.

The child is currently enrolled on an apprenticeship after completing a traineeship with the company and being supported by the staff to sit their GCSEs. The child is excelling in their role and is thoroughly enjoying their work. As a result, they are growing in confidence and developing friendships.

The child's physical health needs are well met and reviewed. The manager has actively escalated the need for appropriate assessments and therapy for the child to support their emotional well-being and work through past trauma.

The child has been supported to set up their own business venture. This has proved very successful and their practical independence skills are developing. However, the child requires further support with their emotional regulation and resilience as they approach independence.

The child has high aspirations for their future, which are encouraged by the staff. The child says they feel well supported by the team and is able to speak to them if anything is worrying them.

The child enjoys spending time with the staff and has built strong and positive relationships with them. The staff understand the child's behaviours and needs well and respond to these appropriately.

Staff support the child's time with family and encourage positive friendships. They work with others to ensure that the child can have experiences like that of their peers.

The home is nicely decorated and welcoming. There are photos around the home, which promotes a sense of belonging for the child and a celebration of their achievements.

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

There has been one incident of restraint since the last inspection. This was well documented and appropriately followed up in debriefs and a team meeting.

Incidents are rare and the staff have a good understanding of the child's behaviours and the strategies that are successful in de-escalating situations. However, when incidents do occur, risk assessments are not always reviewed and updated to ensure that risk is minimised in the future.

The child is well supported following incidents and they are encouraged to reflect on the situation and identify what could be done in the future.

There has been one allegation. Although this was appropriately investigated there was a delay in this allegation being shared with other professionals. The staff member involved had already left the home, so there was no impact on the child. However, safeguarding procedures were not correctly followed.

Safer recruitment processes are followed by the manager. However, consideration of the staffing dynamics in the home are not always assessed and reviewed to minimise potential risks to children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager is appropriately experienced and qualified. The manager ensures that there are sufficient staff and does not use agency staff. This means that the child is supported by a consistent staff team.

Staff feel well supported and say that they receive regular and productive supervisions, where they have the opportunity to discuss the child. Team meetings are detailed, child-centred and informative. This means that staff have the information needed to support the child in all areas of their life.

The manager sources training for her team which is beneficial in supporting the child. The staff report that these training sessions have been useful in encouraging them to think about underlying reasons for behaviours and ways to support the child effectively.

The responsible individual spends time with the child to obtain their views, wishes and feelings. They have a good oversight of the home and support the manager and staff team.

The manager uses systems to monitor the progress of the child and staff team. However, their evaluation of incident reports does not always identify areas of staff practice that need addressing, or information that needs to be shared with others.

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 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)) This relates to the registered person ensuring that their evaluations of incident reports identify poor staff practice. Also, to the updating of risk assessments following incidents.	20 April 2023

Recommendations

- The registered person should seek to involve the local authority and other relevant persons whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare. They are also required by regulation 40 to notify placing authorities, Ofsted and other relevant persons about serious events. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 42, paragraph 9.4)
- The registered person should maintain good employment practice. They must ensure that recruitment, supervision and performance management of staff safeguard children and minimise potential risks to them. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.1)
- The registered person should ensure that staff support children to develop emotional and mental resilience, so they are able to cope without their support. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 17, paragraph 3.27)

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: 2631136

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Safety and Focused Care Limited

Registered provider address: 54 Wood Street, Lytham St Annes FY8 1QG

Responsible individual: Tereasa Denby-Wallis

Registered manager: Barbara Newton

Inspector

Kerri Lynch-Mahoney, Social Care Inspector

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