

2637521

Registered provider: St. Caspian Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned home that provides care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in October 2024.

At the time of the inspection, two children were living at the home. The inspector spoke to one child.

The inspector was aware during this inspection that serious child protection allegations were being investigated by the appropriate authorities. Actions taken by the home in response to the concerns were considered alongside other evidence available at the time of the inspection to inform the judgement.

Inspection dates: 19 and 20 August 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: 13 August 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
13/08/2024	Full	Good
12/12/2023	Full	Good
18/10/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children are happy, and they like living in the home. Staff create a warm, nurturing environment where children feel safe, secure and valued. Children benefit from daily routines and the stability that staff provide. This helped a child who recently moved into the home to settle very quickly.

Children are confident in their relationships with staff and feel comfortable talking about how they feel. Staff have meaningful conversations with children. Some conversations are planned to help children learn valuable social skills.

A key strength of the staff team is its focus on helping children build and maintain positive social connections. Staff support and encourage children to spend quality time with their friends and family members.

Children make steady progress, including in their education. Most children move to the home after being out of formal education for some time. Managers work closely with other professionals to find suitable schools for children. Staff are persistent in encouraging children to engage with their tutors and in educational activities.

Children enjoy a range of activities, such as horse riding, visiting theme parks and taking part in community events. These opportunities are highly valued by children and contribute positively to their emotional well-being and development. Staff also help children to learn skills they need for adult life. One child has developed their cooking and baking skills and is better at keeping their bedroom clean and tidy.

Managers and staff manage the complex process of children moving on from the home sensitively, ensuring that each child's changing needs are met. One member of staff said that they feel saddened when this happens but are happy that children leave with new skills and good memories. Some children visit often to see staff.

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

Children are safe because managers and staff have a strong commitment to safeguarding children. Clear safeguarding procedures are in place, and a culture of vigilance helps to protect children effectively.

When a safeguarding concern arises, staff follow the correct procedures and act promptly to share information with safeguarding partners. These include children's social workers, who collaborate with staff to implement effective processes to keep children safe.

Children feel comfortable raising concerns, including about staff. Managers take all allegations against staff seriously and share information with relevant agencies.

However, the registered manager does not always inform the local authority designated officer promptly when they consider concerns to be less serious. Despite this, there is no evidence that children were harmed because of this omission.

Staff are highly skilled and responsive to the individual needs of children. They manage incidents well and are trained to de-escalate difficult situations calmly and effectively.

Incidents of children going missing from home have reduced. Staff work diligently to help children understand the risks they may face when away from home. This support has encouraged a child to answer calls from staff while out, share their whereabouts and ask to be collected if it is too late to use public transport. These actions help children stay safe while enjoying time with their friends.

The home's safeguarding procedures include robust safer recruitment practices. This ensures that all necessary checks are completed thoroughly, so only staff suitable to work with children are employed.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Leadership is stable, effective and child focused. This stability has a direct and positive impact on children, providing a predictable and secure environment where children can flourish.

The registered manager provides effective guidance and direction to staff, ensuring that the provider's vision of high-quality care is met. Leaders and managers have regular meetings and proactively identify and address areas for improvement. This ensures that they act quickly to address shortfalls, so that children receive consistently good care.

The registered manager regularly checks care records to ensure that these are clear and accurately reflect the care provided to children. However, staff and children's care records do not always use language that is child friendly and respectful. For example, staff use the term 'absconding' when referring to children going missing from home. Managers are committed to addressing this with staff.

Managers create a culture of learning and development for all staff. Staff feel well supported in their roles and empowered to make decisions that are in the best interests of children. Staff praise the quality of training, supervision and support from leaders and managers. This equips them with the skills and knowledge needed to provide tailored support to meet each child's needs. One member of staff said, 'I feel well supported, and there is synergy amongst the team.'

Leaders, managers and staff promote collaborative working with children's social workers and other professionals.

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff use language that is child friendly and respectful, including in records. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)
- The registered person should ensure that the local authority designated officer is informed promptly of all allegations against staff that come to their attention. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 44, paragraph 9.18)

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: 2637521

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: St. Caspian Care Limited

Responsible individual: Barbak Yamini

Registered manager: Saira Raffique

Inspector

Thobekile Bandama, Social Care Inspector

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