

2641768

Registered provider: Care 4 Every Child Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and managed by a private organisation. It provides care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in June 2024.

At the time of the inspection, four children were living at the home.

Inspection dates: 7 and 8 May 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: 21 August 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/08/2024	Full	Good
13/09/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
12/04/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children living in this home benefit from a caring staff team who have a good understanding of their support needs. Staffing stability provides children with the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with the people who care for them. This contributes to children feeling secure and making good progress.

Children are welcomed sensitively into the home. Professionals working with the children praise the team for their kind and nurturing approach, which reduces children's anxieties when moving to a new environment.

Since the last inspection, three children have moved on from the home. Leaders and managers ensure that children move out of the home in a way that helps them feel valued. They work with other professionals to ensure that children understand the plan around them moving on and can prepare for this. Furthermore, children are supported to engage in activities that celebrate their time in the home.

Children are supported to maintain relationships with people who are important to them. Family members are welcomed into the home and children are supported to spend time with them in the community. This helps children to retain a sense of identity and belonging.

Children are supported to engage in education. Their participation is encouraged through positive praise from staff when they take part in educational activities. However, for one child who does not have access to an academic provision, leaders and managers have not ensured that there is a daily plan of alternative education for them to follow with staff.

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

Physical intervention is used as a last resort, to protect children. Well-documented records evidence that incidents are thoroughly reviewed by the registered manager to ensure that staff practice is reasonable and proportionate. Discussions take place with children after a physical intervention, but these do not consider how children feel about being held.

There is an effective response to allegations made by children. Leaders and managers listen to their concerns, and these are acted on through a fair investigation process that considers the views of all involved. Information is shared appropriately with the placing local authority and children are notified of the investigation outcome. This assures children that their welfare and safety are prioritised.

Recruitment practice promotes the safe care of children. New candidates go through a rigorous process to assess their suitability to care for children. This reduces the risk of children being harmed.

Safety plans are detailed and provide staff with guidance on how to respond effectively when incidents occur. Staff are aware of the measures they should use to safeguard children.

Missing-from-home incidents are well documented. Staff follow children's missing-from-home protocols and involve other agencies such as the police to widen the search for children. However, on one occasion, the response to a child going missing was not effective. Staff initially did not realise that the child was missing. When this became apparent, they did not use all available resources to search for the child.

When children return to the home, staff ensure that they can take part in an independent return home interview. However, these do not always take place in a timely manner.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager is experienced and suitably qualified. She has a good understanding of the children and their individual needs. External professionals and staff have confidence in her leadership and care of the children.

There is a supportive culture in the home. Staff have access to formal and informal supervision that considers their practice and well-being. Stable staffing arrangements create a cohesive workforce that is focused on providing effective care to children.

Team meetings take place regularly. The registered manager uses these to address shortfalls in practice and set clear expectations on the standard of care children should receive. While all staff have completed the provider's mandatory training, some have not completed training specific to the children's individual needs. This means that staff do not have the additional skills and expertise to meet children's identified needs.

The registered manager has good oversight of the day-to-day running of the home. Incidents are routinely reviewed and post-incident discussions with staff take place regularly, to ensure that the quality of care provided to children continues to be good.

Leaders and managers embrace multi-agency working and communication with partner agencies is effective. Concerns about the safety and welfare of children are shared with all involved in the child's care to ensure that there is a holistic approach to managing children's risks.

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person 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 must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
In meeting the quality standards, the registered person must, and must ensure that staff— if the registered person considers, or staff consider, a placing authority's or a relevant person's performance or response to be inadequate in relation to their role, challenge the placing authority or the relevant person to seek to ensure that each child's needs are met in accordance with the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 5(c)) Specifically, leaders and managers must ensure that when placing authority documentation for a child is not received in a timely manner, the placing authority is challenged about the delay and, when necessary, the issue is escalated appropriately. In addition, when children are not accessing an education provision, leaders and managers must ensure this is escalated to the relevant people in the placing authority.	10 July 2025
The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans; support each child's learning and development, including helping the child to develop independent study skills and, where appropriate, helping the child to complete independent study; and help a child who is excluded from school, or who is of compulsory school age but not attending school, to access educational and training support throughout the period of	10 July 2025

exclusion or non-attendance and to return to school as soon as possible. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(viii)) Specifically, leaders and managers must ensure that each child who is not in school has a daily plan of alternative education that supports the child to learn and maintain a routine around education until they can access an education provision.	
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— take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child’s welfare. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(vi)) Specifically, leaders, managers and staff must ensure that when children go missing, they consider and use all resources available to find them. This includes visiting the home of the children’s family members when it is safe to do so.	10 July 2025
The registered person must ensure that all employees— undertake appropriate continuing professional development. (Regulation 33 (4)(a)) Specifically, leaders and managers must ensure that all staff complete needs-led training in response to children’s specific needs.	10 July 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that discussions with a child following a physical intervention include a conversation about how the child felt about being held. ('Guide to the Children’s Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 50, paragraph 9.60)
- The registered person should ensure that following an incident of children going missing, children can take part in an independent return home interview within 72 hours of returning to the home. ('Guide to the Children’s Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 45, paragraph 9.30)

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: 2641768

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Care 4 Every Child Limited

Registered provider address: Allen Mills Howard & Co, Library Chambers, 48 Union Street, Hyde SK14 1ND

Responsible individual: Angela Hodgkinson

Registered manager: Sabrina Morrow

Inspector

Chibuzo Otache, Social Care Inspector

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