

2642401

Registered provider: Infinity Care Home Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home registered with Ofsted in November 2021 and is operated by a private provider. It offers care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

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

The manager registered with Ofsted in May 2024.

Inspection dates: 27 and 28 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: 18 March 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/03/2025	Full	Good
16/01/2024	Full	Good
19/07/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Three of the children living at the home spoke with the inspectors. The children are comfortable and relaxed in their home and have built positive relationships with the adults who care for them. One child's artwork is displayed on their bedroom wall, and the child was happy to talk to the inspector about their photos and drawings. Another child spoke about their love of football and going to the gym on a regular basis.

The home is well furnished, but it lacks warmth in some areas, such as the hallway, stairs and landing. Children's bedrooms are personalised according to their specific tastes. However, one child's bedroom was unclean, and they had no duvet cover or pillowcases on their bed. Staff had not encouraged another child to clean their bedroom, nor had they assisted them in removing items from the bedroom that had been there for several days. The manager took action to address these issues during the inspection.

Staff ensure that children are involved in decisions about their lives. When their participation is not possible, the manager and staff team represent the child's views and advocate on their behalf. This helps children feel heard and encourages trusting relationships between children and staff.

Children's health needs are met, and staff encourage them to attend routine health appointments. When children's mental health is fragile, staff seek immediate advice to address emerging needs and liaise effectively with professionals to ensure that the child receives needs-led support.

Children attend education based on their individual needs. One child requested tutoring during the school holidays, which was arranged for them. Another child is excited to start college after having their application accepted.

When children have made derogatory remarks to their peers regarding their race or culture, staff have taken a zero-tolerance approach to address these views in a way that enables children to understand other cultures and religions sensitively and informatively.

Staff are flexible in planning family time activities and have built effective working relationships with family members to ensure that children spend quality time with the people who matter most to them and maintain vital support networks for the future. One parent commented about their family time arrangements, stating, 'They are really positive, and staff support with transport.'

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

Staff work well with partner agencies to reduce risks for children. When children are at risk of harm, staff know how to respond and take the necessary actions. Risk

management plans are in place to ensure that staff take a consistent approach in safely caring for children.

There has been one incident of fire-setting in the home. Staff managed the situation quickly and effectively to prevent the risk of harm to others or damage to the home. The manager followed the correct reporting procedures, informing the child's placing authority, Ofsted and the fire department in a timely manner.

The home has since been visited by the fire safety team, and plans are underway to carry out group work with the children around the dangers of fires and to increase general knowledge. During the inspection, one child confidently explained to the inspector what to do in the event the fire alarm sounds.

Staff use de-escalation strategies effectively to help children when they are feeling frustrated and upset. Children are receptive to staff having conversations with them about making positive choices, and staff use professional curiosity as a strategy when engaging in these conversations. When physical intervention is necessary to safeguard the children or others, incidents are clearly recorded, and children are provided with a full debrief.

Children have not always felt safe due to other children's presenting behaviour. During these times, staff have acted appropriately, reporting concerns to the child's placing authority and acting as a mediator for children to resolve difficulties and restore healthy relationships.

Staff carry out regular direct-work sessions with children on a range of topics. These sessions are meaningful, and they provide children with education and guidance, enabling them to learn how to stay safe in the community and online, understand the consequences of their behaviour, and take ownership of their lives.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is led by an ambitious and caring manager who works proactively with a range of external agencies and professionals. The manager's knowledge, experience and passion for promoting children's development fully equip her to advocate for children's outcomes when plans are delayed.

Internal monitoring and review systems are fully embedded and include critical oversight and evaluation. When incidents occur, including shortfalls in staff practice, leaders and managers ensure that learning is taken forward to improve children's experiences. They also encourage staff to enhance their knowledge through training.

Staff speak positively of the manager. They are confident in her ability to lead and manage the home as well as being able to rely on her for advice and support. Staff who are new to the home are supported by experienced staff members who are confident in their roles and daily duties and provide effective mentoring.

Staff receive regular supervision, which provides a good balance between focusing on children's risks and needs and staff well-being. Staff feel confident reporting concerns to leaders and managers, whom they state are available and present in the home. Staff are aware of the whistle-blowing procedure, and they feel confident that any concerns raised will be dealt with appropriately, confidentially, and in a timely manner.

Team meetings take place regularly, and a range of agenda items are discussed. Furthermore, these meetings serve as a forum for staff to collectively consider new approaches to working with children, promoting their participation and engagement. Staff benefit from a new rota system that has recently been implemented across the company, which is easy to read and follow.

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 quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that staff provide to children living in the home the physical necessities they need in order to live there comfortably; provide to children personal items that are appropriate for their age and understanding; and ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(vii)(viii)(c)(i)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that all children's bedrooms are maintained and decorated to an acceptable standard. This includes ensuring that any damages are promptly repaired.	25 September 2025

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: 2642401

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Infinity Care Home Ltd

Registered provider address: 16 The Downs, Cheadle SK8 1JL

Responsible individual: Laura Hopkinson

Registered manager: Charlotte Player

Inspectors

Michelle Greenhalgh, Social Care Inspector
Kimberley Feeley, Social Care Inspector

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