

2645485

Registered provider: Compass Children's Homes Ltd

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is registered to provide care for up to 6 children with social, emotional and mental health difficulties. It is owned and run by a private organisation. At the time of the inspection, 5 children were living in the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in August 2025.

Inspection date: 19 March 2026

Date of last inspection: 2 July 2025

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

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

The inspector has 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.

This assurance inspection was carried out following a judgement of 'requires improvement to be good' at the last full inspection in July 2025.

Two children have moved out of the home since the last inspection. Managers work closely with other carers and professionals to make moves a positive experience for children. Fun activities, parties, holidays and meals out make endings a celebration. As a result of this thoughtful planning, children have settled well into their new homes.

There is a child-focused approach to moving children into the home. One child has moved in since the last inspection. They were visited by staff and then invited to visit the home. During these visits, staff explored the house rules and routines with the child, in addition to finding out more about the child's interests, needs and preferences. As a result, the child has settled well into the home.

Children are making positive progress in their education. Staff are proactive in working with education providers to help children engage in their education. One child, who has been on a reduced timetable for a significant period of time, has recently been able to move to full-time education. One child in the home is not yet able to engage in formal education in a school environment. The home has worked closely with its network and has been creative in generating positive opportunities for them to learn skills and to have fun in the home.

There are a range of fun activities for children to enjoy in the home, which align with their interests. Children are supported to learn new skills, including cooking, crafting and spray painting. In addition, they have also been encouraged to enjoy activities in the community, including martial arts lessons, trips to a theme park, go-karting, shopping and local amusements.

Communal areas of the home have improved and are now bright and welcoming spaces for children to enjoy. However, staff have been unable to establish a routine with children that supports them to maintain their bedroom spaces. When children have refused staff access to their rooms, adults have been unable to set clear expectations that rooms must be checked, cleaned and maintained. As a result, there are concerns in relation to the cleanliness in some of the children's bedrooms.

Children know how to make a complaint. Leaders take the time to explore concerns raised by children, talking directly with them before carrying out further enquiries. When there are areas for development and learning, these are reflected on with the individuals involved. Leaders and managers provide children with age-appropriate outcome letters to let them know how their concerns have been addressed. However, letters and responses from staff do not consistently provide children with

guidance on what they can do to escalate their complaint internally and externally if they are unsatisfied with the response. As a result, children do not always feel that their complaint is resolved.

There are a range of regular opportunities for children to share their views, including one-to-one sessions and children's meetings. However, some opportunities to feed back to children that they have been heard and their views have been considered have been missed. As a result, children do not always feel they are listened to or consulted when decisions are made about their care, routines and the home environment.

Children rarely go missing from the home. When they do, these incidents are managed well. Staff work closely with professionals to locate children and engage in strategy discussions to try to reduce the likelihood of recurrence. Social workers are invited into the home to complete return home interviews with children, and guidance is updated and shared with staff.

Allegations are managed well. When concerns in relation to practice are raised, managers take prompt action to review practice and implement safety plans to safeguard children and staff. The local authority designated officer, the child's social worker and other relevant professionals are notified in a timely way. Investigations promptly take place and managers ensure that any learning from incidents is embedded into future practice.

Staff are not consistent in how they apply consequences. Children have not been involved in considering the consequences for breaking the home's rules, and there is a lack of opportunity to seek children's views in order to help them understand how or why a consequence is being applied. In addition to this, an incident has taken place in the home which involved 2 children; however, only one child has been subject to consequences. The disparity in how consequences are being used is impacting on some children's relationships with staff and with each other.

Managers have issued training to the team on managing dynamics between children. There has been training and support for staff to recognise and respond to signs of bullying. Managers have also taken the time to explore bullying with the children; the use of scenario-based questions helps children and staff to understand how bullying may present in different forms. When incidents between children occur, staff intervene appropriately, and managers take the time when reviewing incidents to reflect on whether intervention could have been used earlier. As a result of this intervention, there has been a reduction in the number of incidents between children.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
02/07/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
29/01/2025	Full	Good
07/06/2023	Full	Good

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 positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust; an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and positive responses to other children and adults. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— help each child to develop socially aware behaviour; encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and understanding; communicate to each child expectations about the child's behaviour and ensure that the child understands those expectations in accordance with the child's age and understanding; strive to gain each child's respect and trust. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(ii)(iii)(v)(viii)) In particular, ensure that any consequences for behaviours are applied equitably and that children are supported to understand any consequences used.	14 May 2026
The children's views, wishes and feelings standard is that children receive care from staff who— develop positive relationships with them;	14 May 2026

engage with them; and take their views, wishes and feelings into account in relation to matters affecting the children's care and welfare and their lives. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that staff— ascertain and consider each child's views, wishes and feelings, and balance these against what they judge to be in the child's best interests when making decisions about the child's care and welfare; help each child to understand how the child's views, wishes and feelings have been taken into account and give the child reasons for decisions in relation to the child; make each child aware of and, if necessary, remind them of each of the matters in sub-paragraph (d)(i) to (iii). (Regulation 7 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(vii))	
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Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that routines are developed that support children to maintain good levels of hygiene in their bedroom spaces and ensure staff take appropriate action to maintain the space for them if they are unable to engage with the routine. A child's bedroom should not generally be entered without their permission, though it may be necessary to establish routines to allow for rooms to be cleaned regularly. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 16, paragraph 3.20)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2645485

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Compass Children's Homes Ltd

Registered provider address: Compass Community Ltd, 3 Rayns Way, Syston, Leicester LE7 1PF

Responsible individual: Zoe Milton

Registered manager: Andrew Paterson

Inspector

Georgia Carty, Social Care Inspector

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