

2649743

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private provider. It provides care for one child who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in May 2026.

At the time of this inspection, there was one child living at the home.

Inspection dates: 23 and 24 June 2026

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: 20 August 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/08/2025	Full	Good
21/01/2025	Full	Good
14/11/2023	Full	Good
14/09/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Summary of findings

The child is well cared for by a dedicated and caring staff team. The child has made significant progress with education and is now attending a school setting.

The child takes part in activities and hobbies they enjoy, and staff promote positive peer relationships to reduce the child being socially isolated.

Staff have a good understanding of the child's risks and needs, and there are robust plans in place to help keep the child safe.

The manager promotes a positive culture within the home, with high aspirations and expectations for the child. Staff are supported by the manager and each other.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The child has trusting and secure relationships with staff. Staff are dedicated and promote the child's wishes and feelings, wanting the best outcomes for the child.

The child is now attending school following several years of missing education in a formal setting. A social worker said the child has made 'a huge step forward by attending education'. The manager ensured that the most suitable school was sought, and the child was fully involved in the planning process to ensure that the transition was positive and supportive. This is reported to have been significant progress for the child.

Staff support the child to develop skills and strategies to manage difficult feelings, using therapeutic models of care. Clear and appropriate boundaries are in place, and achievements are regularly celebrated. This promotes stability and a sense of belonging for the child.

Staff encourage the child's interests and hobbies. A dedicated area of the home is set up for bike mechanics and repairs, which the child enjoys. The child also takes part in fishing, bike rides, days out and go-karting. Staff actively promote peer relationships by ensuring that fun and meaningful activities take place with friends, helping to reduce social isolation.

Staff recognise the importance of health and wellbeing. They use creative approaches to reduce the child's anxieties around attending health appointments. The child also has access to specialist support from an in-house clinician to promote their emotional wellbeing.

The child is supported by an advocate, and staff ensure that the child's wishes are shared with wider professionals, so their voice is heard and respected. The manager and staff work closely with other professionals to maintain consistent and effective support.

The home is maintained to a good standard, providing a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere.

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

Staff have a good understanding of the child's risks and vulnerabilities. Robust safety plans and embedded therapeutic approaches provide clear guidance for meeting the child's individual needs. Staff respond proactively and effectively to keep the child safe from harm.

When the child goes missing, staff understand the risks and respond quickly. Incidents are minimal and of short duration. Staff actively search for the child and follow their agreed plans.

The child has been physically restrained on one occasion, which was proportionate, and discussions took place with the child afterwards. Police have not been called to manage difficult behaviour. Staff use effective de-escalation techniques to help calm situations in the home.

Staff understand the risks the child may face online and take steps to help keep them safe at home and when using their mobile phone.

Staff regularly engage the child in age-appropriate conversations about risk, safety and independence, helping them develop the knowledge and skills needed to protect themselves from harm and make positive choices.

Safer recruitment processes are in place, helping to ensure that only adults who are safe to work with children are employed at the home.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is managed by a caring and dedicated registered manager. One staff member said, 'He is one of the best managers I've had.' Staff consistently report that they are supported by their manager and by each other.

The manager regularly reviews the quality of care provided to the child and records clear, strengths-based evaluations, actions and expectations in key documents. The child's views are clearly recorded, helping staff understand what is working well and how best to meet the child's needs.

Staff receive quality supervision and annual appraisals. Regular team meetings take place that are creative and well attended. These meetings discuss the child's needs and

progress, incident reports and how staff should respond therapeutically. The manager provides clear actions and expectations for staff to follow.

The manager and staff attend regular training and development opportunities and meet frequently with the in-house clinician. This ensures that they continually develop their practice and meet the child's specific needs.

The manager promotes a positive culture within the home, with high aspirations and expectations for the child. Staff say they are supported and confident to raise concerns, share ideas and discuss any issues openly with the manager.

The manager and staff work positively and proactively with other professionals to secure positive outcomes for the child. Feedback from professionals is consistently positive.

No requirements or recommendations were raised at this inspection.

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: 2649743

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Registered provider address: Suites 1 & 5 Riverside Business Centre, Foundry Lane, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 0RN

Responsible individual: Louise Rhodes

Registered manager: Lewis Bolton

Inspector

Joy Viles, Social Care Regulatory Inspector

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