

2661511

Registered provider: Brinscall Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and run by a private company. It is registered to provide care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of the inspection, four children were living in the home. All four children were spoken with during the inspection.

The home was registered with Ofsted in April 2022. The manager registered in May 2025.

Inspection dates: 30 June and 1 July 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	outstanding
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	outstanding
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding
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The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

Date of last inspection: 23 April 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
23/04/2024	Full	Good
03/10/2023	Full	Good
18/10/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Children say that they love living in their home. One child said, 'Who couldn't be happy living here?' Children have created their own song to celebrate their love of the home and the staff team. The inspector was privileged to see a live performance of the song. This showcases the confidence the children have gained during their time in this home. Children are supported to be children. Children spend time together creating song and dance routines together. Another child said that they would stay here forever if they could.

A sister and brother have been supported to live together. Both children say that they love being able to live together again.

Children live in a home that is extremely welcoming, friendly and safe. Children benefit from a consistent and nurturing approach to care from staff, an ethos that permeates throughout the staff team. Children's achievements are celebrated through photos and life-story work. One parent said that they would not want their child to live anywhere else.

The home has a homely feel, with walls covered with children's photos and experiences. The manager ensures that the home remains homely, encouraging staff to use terms such as 'who's home today' as opposed to 'which staff are on shift'. This ensures that the home removes any institutional undertones.

Children's existing and emerging health needs are fully met. This is significant progress for one child. Children now attend all routine health appointments and reviews. One child has been supported to manage their lifelong health condition independently, something the consultants did not think achievable. This is as a result of the tenacity and confidence of the manager and their knowledge of the child.

Children are supported to understand their own behaviours in a reflective, fun and safe way. Staff know the needs of the children extremely well, and there is a seamless link from risk assessments to support plans. If children's needs change, support plans are reviewed and updated in collaboration with the placing authority. Staff use their 'behaviour-opoly' game, which is a behavioural support mechanism. This game is a fun and innovative way to ensure that children's positive behaviour is always recognised and rewarded. This process also ensures that rewards are collaborative, which encourages children to work together to gain additional rewards or praise.

Social stories are used as a therapeutic tool to support children to make sense of their emotions, routines and social expectations. The 'no name no shame' ethos helps children to make sense of situations they are facing in a solution-focused and strength-based manner.

Children receive strong positive behaviour support from staff who care for them; this is most evident in the love and attention given to each child. Staff regularly offer praise for children's achievements or simply for being themselves.

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

A strong safeguarding culture underpins practice in the home. As a result, children say that they feel confident talking about anything that might be worrying them. Children have comprehensive safe care plans, which are reviewed and updated regularly. These clearly outline the known behaviours of the children and provide staff with clear guidance to support them effectively.

Staff actively support children to take age-appropriate risks in a safe and considered manner. Through direct work sessions, children are supported to develop an understanding of their behaviours, with clear boundaries and safe opportunities to explore their feelings. Key-work sessions enable children to reflect on the risks they may encounter. This approach helps to build children's skills, resilience and life experiences.

Safer recruitment checks are carried out for all staff members. This ensures that only those who are safe and suitable to work with children are employed at the home. The recruitment process is thorough and robust, including enhanced DBS checks, verification of identity, employment history, references and the right to work in the UK.

Staff work effectively with external agencies to ensure that children make exceptional progress in their lives. For example, one child received timely and targeted support following the manager's referral to the counterterrorism programme, the 'Prevent' duty. This intervention was pivotal in securing a safe and positive outcome for the child. Over the subsequent seven years, the child has gone on to achieve significant personal success, becoming a dedicated martial arts student and securing sponsorship from a global gym brand.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

The staff team benefits from inspirational leadership that places the care, well-being and unconditional positive regard for children at the heart of practice. Leaders and managers model a child-centred ethos that prioritises love, empathy and emotional safety.

Leaders and managers are inspirational and lead by example. Team morale is excellent and staff say that they feel a sense of shared ownership of the care provided, which helps to drive improvement. Leaders and managers are held in exceptionally high regard by staff, children, family members and external professionals.

Understanding the needs, wishes and feelings of children is a priority for the manager and staff. Feedback from children is obtained in a variety of ways, such as through regular children's meetings, day-to-day feedback and direct work.

There are robust monitoring and review systems in place. The registered manager reviews all records on a regular basis. There are systems in place to ensure that all placing local authority care plans and other important records are clearly accessible and factually accurate.

The staff team is stable, providing consistency and continuity of care for the children. A high proportion of staff hold the relevant qualifications for their roles, and those who do not are actively working towards achieving them within the required timescales. Staff work collaboratively, demonstrating strong teamwork and a shared commitment to the children's well-being. They report feeling well supported by both managers and colleagues, with regular supervision, team meetings and access to ongoing training.

The independent visitor provides regular evaluation of the home, and this is provided in a timely manner. However, the voices of the children are often absent from the evaluation. This limits the independent person's ability to evaluate their lived experiences. The registered manager has made efforts to rectify this.

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

Recommendation

- The registered manager should ensure that the independent visitor consults regularly with the children as part of their assessment of the home and the quality of care the children are receiving. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.5)

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: 2661511

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Brinscall Care Limited

Registered provider address: Suite 27, Barnfield House, Sandpits Lane, Accrington Road, Blackburn BB1 3NY

Responsible individual: Max Beswick

Registered manager: Kirsten Tregartha

Inspector

James Meeks, Social Care Inspector

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