

2672566

Registered provider: Embrace Care Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and managed by a private company. It provides care for up to 3 children who may experience social or emotional difficulties.

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

There is no registered manager in post.

The registered provider has recently appointed a new responsible individual, and we are currently checking if this person has the relevant capacity, experience and skills to carry out the role.

Inspection date: 12 February 2026

This monitoring visit

An assurance visit took place on 29 December 2025, which identified serious and widespread concerns. Serious shortfalls were identified in respect of the safeguarding practices, leadership and management of the home and quality of care being provided. Compliance notices were issued under regulation 12 (the protection of children standard), regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard) and regulation 6 (the quality and purpose of care standard).

This visit was carried out to monitor the provider's compliance with the notices.

Since the last visit, one child has remained living at the home, and one child has moved on.

The previous manager left in January 2025. At the time of this visit, the home was being managed by an interim manager from another home in the same company. The newly appointed responsible individual is providing the necessary support.

There has been one missing-from-home incident since the last visit. Staff did not follow the child's plans or take action to safeguard the child from going missing from the home. Therefore, a requirement has been issued under regulation 12.

Since the incident, leaders and managers have strengthened their oversight of incident reporting and used reflective practice to identify learning, which has been shared with the staff team to support improved practice. Senior management oversight identified missed opportunities for staff to provide reassurance following an incident for the child, which contributed to them going missing.

Leaders and managers responded promptly to the shortfalls identified in staff practice, addressing the issues directly with the staff involved. The interim manager has further explored this during supervision, ensuring that staff understand expectations and their responsibilities under the revised procedures. Additional training has been provided to all staff to strengthen their knowledge and prevent reoccurrence.

Measures are now in place to prevent children from accessing items that may present a risk to them or others. Previously, children were able to gain access to company vehicles by taking keys from the staff office. In response, additional steering locks have been fitted to all vehicles, and the keys for these are stored separately from the vehicle keys. All keys are now held securely in individual locked cabinets, ensuring that safe and consistent practice is maintained.

Since the previous inspection, staff have received training on exploitation, county lines and gang culture. Team meetings have reinforced learning, with staff from other homes delivering focused sessions on areas such as report writing and risk reduction. This has strengthened the team's knowledge and confidence in supporting children's safety and wellbeing.

Staff now provide targeted sessions that help children develop their understanding of personal safety, boundaries and independent living skills, enabling them to make safer decisions at the home and in the community. Culturally appropriate activities further promote children's confidence and sense of identity, as well as their ability to form safe and healthy relationships.

The child living at the home is supported through a structured independence plan and engages in weekly practical activities to build key skills in areas such as personal safety, budgeting, hygiene and cooking. Changes to the staffing arrangements have been made so that the child works consistently with adults they trust, resulting in improved engagement, attendance at appointments and participation in community activities. The child is now accessing youth provision and exploring education and employment options. These actions have strengthened their confidence and preparedness for moving on.

Outstanding repairs and maintenance in the home have now been addressed. Senior managers have introduced a monitoring tool to track maintenance tasks, ensuring that any required work is recorded, prioritised and carried out in a timely manner. This system also provides clear oversight of jobs that have been finished, supporting consistent standards across the home.

It is Ofsted's view that the provider has taken sufficient action to meet the compliance notices.

Requirements from the last full inspection were not considered as part of this visit and will be reviewed at the next inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/11/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
30/07/2025	Full	Inadequate
20/08/2024	Full	Good
17/04/2024	Full	Inadequate

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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
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— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; help each child to understand how to keep safe; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm; that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health and that the effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly.	10 April 2026

(Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(d)(e)) Specifically, leaders and managers must ensure that staff actively follow the home's policies and procedures to keep children safe when they go missing from the home.	
The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. The requirements are that— the individual is of integrity and good character; the individual has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills for the work that the individual is to perform; and full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. (Regulation 32 (1) (3)(a)(b)(d)) Specifically, the registered person must ensure that when staff have been dismissed from previous roles, these situations are thoroughly explored and appropriately assessed for risk.	8 February 2026
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; 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 exclusion or non-attendance and to return to school as soon as possible; and	8 February 2026

help each child who is above compulsory school age to participate in further education, training or employment and to prepare for future care, education or employment. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(viii)(ix)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that when children are not attending an education setting, they are actively encouraged to engage in a structured routine that is regularly reviewed for effectiveness.	
The registered person must compile in relation to the children's home a statement ("the statement of purpose") which covers the matters listed in Schedule 1. The registered person must— keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. Subject to paragraph (6), the registered person must ensure that the home is at all times conducted in a manner which is consistent with its statement of purpose. Nothing in paragraph (5) or regulation 46 (review of premises) requires or authorises the registered person to contravene or not comply with— any other provision of these Regulations; or any conditions in relation to the registration of the registered person under Part 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000. (Regulation 16 (1) (3)(a)(b) (5) (6)(a)(b)) Specifically, the registered person must ensure that staff details are accurate and that the home's statement of purpose reflects the conditions of its registration.	8 February 2026
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home.	8 February 2026

In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—

that each child's relevant plans are followed.
(Regulation 14 (1)(a) (2)(c))

Specifically, the registered person must ensure that all statutory documents that inform children's care plans are received in a timely manner. This includes pathway plans, statutory review documents and personal education plans.

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that all relevant documents are included in children's records on time to support their planning. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 55, paragraphs 11.1 and 11.5)

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2672566

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Embrace Care Limited

Registered provider address: 116 Duke Street, Liverpool, Lancashire L1 5JW

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Nicola Jeffery, Social Care Inspector

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