

2677724

Registered provider: Evolve Childcare Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home provides care for up to 4 children who may experience social or emotional difficulties. At the time of the inspection, 4 children were living in the home.

The home shares a courtyard with another home that is run by the same company. The homes were previously one home, but they separated as individual registrations in 2022.

The manager is registered with Ofsted. They were present throughout the inspection.

Inspection dates: 9 and 10 December 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: 19 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
19/11/2024	Full	Good
13/06/2023	Full	Good
14/02/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The home is large, with lots of different spaces for children to use. It is decorated to a good standard, and children's bedrooms are personalised. Outdoor areas for children are spacious and well maintained.

Children benefit from care that is designed to meet their individual needs. Staff encourage them to have new experiences, such as boxing lessons and trips in the community.

Staff spend time building relationships with children. Children have developed their confidence, emotional resilience and ability to manage and express their emotions. They often choose to speak to staff about their worries and concerns. Staff listen to children's wishes and feelings. They intuitively monitor children's moods and reach out to children. This promotes conversation and the provision of emotional support and advice.

Staff recognise the importance of ensuring that children's educational needs are met. They build positive relationships with education professionals, sharing important information about children's education, home life and wellbeing. Since moving to the home, two children have made progress with their educational attainment and their behaviours in school. Independence planning involves children, to ensure that it aligns with their needs.

Children are cared for by staff who promote healthy lifestyles. Staff devise ways to support children to attend appointments and to understand their health and emotional needs. They raise children's health concerns with other professionals and monitor them. However, following staff raising concerns about a health concern for a child that could have a long-lasting negative impact on them, no action has been taken to ensure that that it is was appropriately addressed. Managers accept that this needs to be addressed without delay.

Staff understand the complexity of family relationships and how these can impact on children. They spend time with children, listening to their memories and experiences with family, providing sensitive and therapeutic responses. When it is safe and appropriate, staff work with children's families to support them to maintain and build positive relationships. Any concerns about the time children spend with their families are acted on effectively to safeguard children.

One child's move out of the home was well planned. Staff worked closely with other professionals, the family and the child to ensure that the child's wishes and feelings were considered and that there was a positive ending to the child's time at the home and a positive start at their new home.

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

Staff understand how vulnerable children can be and the risks that they can face. They understand and plan how to manage and mitigate risk. They work closely with external professionals to devise and implement multi-agency care planning when it is required. Staff make opportunities to talk to children about risk. This helps children learn how to keep themselves safe and the potential negative impact of their behaviours. For one child, risks including going missing and self-harm have reduced.

When children go missing, staff usually respond promptly and appropriately. Management oversight has identified 2 occasions when staff have not acted in line with guidance. This was addressed immediately. Plans that did not reflect the child's vulnerability if they went missing were updated during the inspection.

Incidents of concerning behaviour rarely happen in the home. When they do, staff act in children's best interests. Staff recognise the importance of providing children with clear and consistent boundaries in ending incidents in a timely way. Strategies used by staff support children to feel calmer and more settled. However, when incidents do not occur regularly or when a child is new to the home, staff do not always have the skills to and strategies to end incidents promptly.

Staff support children to understand the impact of their actions on each other. Carefully planned reparative sessions give children a voice and a safe space to express their feelings and to reflect on their actions. These sessions promote kindness and consideration in children's relationships with each other.

Some language used by staff during incidents may make children feel shame or blame. Managers have identified this as an urgent learning point and have devised learning to address this.

Staff take allegations made by children seriously and investigate them thoroughly. They inform and involve appropriate professionals in investigations and ensure that children are spoken to. Effective management oversight of allegations ensures that learning from investigations is shared with staff to promote learning.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The leadership and management team is committed to achieving the best outcomes for children. They have positive working relationships, setting a good example for staff and children. Leaders and managers spend time in the home, working directly with the staff and children. This has allowed them to build positive and trusting relationships with children and staff.

Leaders and managers know what is going on in the home and have oversight of children's lives and staff practice. Care planning for children sets out children's needs, routines, risks and behaviours. The quality of management oversight is mixed. At times it is reflective and considers staff practice and children's need. On other occasions, it

provides limited analysis and evaluation of staff practice and children's behaviours. This may prevent learning and the development of strategies to better meet children's needs.

Leaders and managers advocate for children. They actively work with other professionals and raise concerns when necessary. Concerns and complaints raised by a child have been shared and addressed appropriately. The child was involved in the process and informed of the outcome in a child-friendly way.

The quality of planning when a child moves into the home is mixed. There is planning to start to build relationships. However, children's initial experiences of each other, the home and staff are not thoroughly recorded and considered. Potential risks and behaviours are documented. However, there is a lack of analysis and evaluation of the impact of risks and behaviours on children already living in the home. This has led to some difficulties in the relationships between children.

Staff feel supported by leaders and managers. They receive regular supervision and attend team meetings. Staff say that supervision is of good quality and meets their overall needs. However, there is a lack of reflection and discussion of safeguarding and overall practice.

Staff recruitment processes ensure that checks are completed to determine whether people are safe to work with children. Concerns about staff practice are thoroughly and robustly investigated. There is clear action planning which is reviewed to ensure that points for learning have been addressed.

Managers do not regularly revise and share the statement of purpose. The location assessment of the home does not consider how a serious risk in the local area should be mitigated.

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 health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met; children receive advice, services and support in relation to their health and well-being; and children are helped to lead healthy lifestyles. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff help each child to— understand the child's health and well-being needs and the options that are available in relation to the child's health and well-being, in a way that is appropriate to the child's age and understanding; that each child has access to such dental, medical, nursing, psychiatric and psychological advice, treatment and other services as the child may require. (Regulation 10 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(ii)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that children's medical needs are addressed without delay.	1 February 2026
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;	1 February 2026

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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(b)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that planning for when children go missing considers children's individual vulnerabilities.	
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that children are admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home's statement of purpose; that arrangements are in place to— manage and review the placement of each child in the home. (Regulation 14 (1)(a) (2)(a)(b)(ii)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that they complete and document robust evaluation and analysis of all available or required information about all children before a decision is made for a child to move into the home.	1 February 2026
The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home;	1 February 2026

use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(f)(h)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that thorough reviews are carried out to analyse and evaluate staff practice and how it impacts on outcomes for children.	
The registered person must review the appropriateness and suitability of the location of the premises used for the purposes of the children's home at least once in each calendar year taking into account the requirement in regulation 12(2)(c) (the protection of children standard). (Regulation 46 (1)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that ways to mitigate risks in the local area are documented.	1 February 2026
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. (Regulation 16 (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. (Regulation 16 (1) (3)(a)(b))	1 February 2026

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff follow the home's policies and procedures to benefit the children who live there. There should be clear lines of accountability. In particular, the registered person should ensure that documents detailing supervision show the discussion and reflection that takes place. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 54, paragraph 10.20)

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: 2677724

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Evolve Childcare Ltd

Registered provider address: Suite B, Blackdown House, Blackbrook Park Avenue, Taunton, Somerset TA1 2PX

Responsible individual: Daniel Walker

Registered manager: Sarah Dovey

Inspector

Carla Simkiss, Social Care Inspector

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