

2679801

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 owned by a private company and is registered to provide care for up to 5 children with social and emotional needs.

No children were living at the home at the time of the inspection.

There has been no registered manager since 10 June 2025.

Inspection date: 3 March 2026

Date of last inspection: 4 June 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

Since the last inspection, senior leaders have made the decision to end children's placements because they could not adequately meet their care and safety needs.

Staff struggled to manage children's risks when some children posed a risk to one another. Without a registered manager to oversee day-to-day care, this resulted in shortfalls in care practice, and the situation proved unsustainable.

Senior leaders have been unable to successfully appoint a manager to register at the children's home. Although some efforts have been made to recruit, interim managers left following short stays in role.

The home is not currently in a good state of repair, and it is not fit for children to live in until maintenance work has been undertaken.

While the children's home was operational, a pipe burst in the loft, causing flood damage. The impact of the leak has not yet been repaired or assessed. In addition, the electrics have not been checked or the fire risk assessment reviewed in response to the damage. Children's bedrooms smell damp because of the impact from the leak.

The home is furnished sparsely, with some furniture items missing. For example, there are no TVs and no dining table. Children's bedrooms are not ready for a child to sleep in them. Two children's bedrooms have had a ladybird infestation, which has not yet been treated. Some doors and windows need replacing, along with the dishwasher, which is misshapen.

Due to the home being non-operational for several months, some staff have left the service to work elsewhere. As a result, there are not enough staff employed to safely and meaningfully care for children.

There has been one incident where an action was set to fit window restrictors on the office windows. This was because a child climbed through the window. These restrictors were not put in place, which led to a further incident where a child climbed through the same window. This resulted in the police being called to keep the children safe.

The responsible individual has communicated well with Ofsted and has completed the necessary safeguarding notifications. For this reason, the recommendation set at the previous inspection has been met.

The requirements set at the last inspection have been restated. In addition, a requirement has been set under regulation 27 because no registered manager has been appointed.

Senior leaders have reflected on what went wrong. They recognise that children's care was negatively impacted by children not being in school. This led to children being bored and lacking stimulation. Senior leaders have learned to be more discerning when considering caring for children without an education placement in the future.

Although children have experienced instability, senior leaders supported children to have planned moves.

Senior leaders have attended multi-agency meetings to address professionals' concerns and have taken accountability when there have been shortfalls in communication.

Ofsted proposed to issue a 3-month condition in respect of this children's home. This was to allow sufficient time for the provider to make the necessary improvements before a child can move in. However, senior leaders have expressed that the home improvements and the shortfalls in leadership and management can be rectified within shorter timescales. For such reasons, Ofsted have issued a restriction of accommodation notice, this is because the home is not currently safe or suitable for children to live in.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/06/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
21/10/2024	Full	Outstanding
23/01/2024	Full	Outstanding
11/10/2022	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 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; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; 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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(vi)(b)(d)) In particular, the registered person should implement agreed recommendations following behavioural incidents. In particular, the registered person should ensure that the home and garden are safe for children and are free from any possible hazards.	27 April 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; promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff work as a team where appropriate; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child; ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to each child; 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. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)) In particular, leaders and managers should ensure that staff understand and respond to children's needs effectively. In particular, the registered person should ensure that staffing sufficiency is kept under review.	27 April 2026
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—	27 April 2026

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)(b) (2)(a)(b)(ii)) The registered person should ensure that children's needs can be met at the point of placement.	
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— meet each child's behavioural and emotional needs, as set out in the child's relevant plans; 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; help each child to develop and practise skills to resolve conflicts positively and without harm to anyone; 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; help each child to understand, in a way that is appropriate according to the child's age and understanding, personal, sexual and social relationships, and how those relationships can be supportive or harmful;	27 April 2026

strive to gain each child's respect and trust; understand how children's previous experiences and present emotions can be communicated through behaviour and have the competence and skills to interpret these and develop positive relationships with children; de-escalate confrontations with or between children, or potentially violent behaviour by children; understand and communicate to children that bullying is unacceptable; and have the skills to recognise incidents or indications of bullying and how to deal with them. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(viii)(ix)(xi)(xii)(xiii)) In particular, the responsible person should make certain that systems are in place to ensure that children are prevented from harming one another.	
The registered provider must appoint a person to manage the children's home if— there is no registered manager in respect of the home. (Regulation 27 (1)(a))	27 April 2026

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2679801

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:

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Andi Lilley-Tams, Social Care Inspector

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