

2680042

Registered provider: Parker SC Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a private provider. It offers care for up to two children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in November 2023. The manager is due to resign from this post. A new manager has been appointed and has applied to register with Ofsted.

Two children were living in the home at the time of the inspection. The inspector spoke to both children.

Inspection dates: 19 and 20 August 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: 30 July 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
30/07/2024	Full	Good
27/02/2024	Full	Good
08/03/2023	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Living in the home has a positive and enriching impact on children's lives. One child is now discharged from speech and language therapy. Their speech and vocabulary are now fully developed, and they can communicate clearly. Of particular significance is how the child is now able to accept praise and comfort from staff. Further excellent progress is the child's personal care skills. Another child is thriving and makes exceptional strides towards independence. They are now able to enjoy time with friends in the community without supervision.

When children come to live in the home, risks are well understood, and risk assessments are thoroughly evaluated to ensure that children can live safely together. Moves in and out of the home are carefully considered and planned. Staff take great care preparing children during these times. Records used to support the children moving are child centred and written in kind and caring language. Staff work well with social workers and support the process using age-appropriate stories with pictures. As a result, children settle quickly.

There is substantial evidence of significant change in the children's development and well-being. Comprehensive care plans are tailored to meet the children's individual needs. Children are thriving in school, have full attendance and make new friends. The manager acts in children's best interests by advocating that children attend the right schools. Staff go above and beyond by driving one child to school to ensure stability and continuity.

Children are physically healthy, and staff encourage a lot of activities for them to stay fit. The emotional needs of the children are complex. However, staff are proactive and work excellently in collaboration with professionals to meet the children's emotional and mental well-being needs. Children benefit significantly from additional support through therapeutic interventions that have improved their well-being. Additionally, the responsible individual provides children with excellent resources, such as spending time at a farm and with horses, to further enhance the therapeutic intervention.

Staff have built strong and trusting relationships with children, and this helps them to form positive peer relationships in the community. Staff encourage children to participate in community activities, such as running in the park, joining clubs and encouraging their interests. Staff support family time, which takes place in the community. One child has sibling time activities facilitated by staff, such as bowling. This helps to foster a sense of belonging and promotes emotional well-being.

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

Safeguarding practice is highly effective. Staff have a clear understanding of the risks to the children. Risk assessments are robust and thoroughly evaluate the likelihood of increasing risk. The children, being very young, benefit significantly from therapeutic support and well-trained staff who recognise the impact of early trauma. As a result, children feel safe and make progress.

Staff help children to develop safer strategies when experiencing overwhelming emotions. Staff use nurturing parenting skills exceptionally well to minimise the effects of physical aggression. One child now chooses to walk away and take time alone in their bedroom until they are ready to receive comfort from staff. Staff adopt the home's therapy team strategy of 'connection before correction' as a method of de-escalating difficult emotions. This works exceptionally well for the children.

Consequences are age appropriate and used in a way that children understand. Staff work extremely sensitively with children to help them cope and reduce aggression to others and to staff. The use of nurture, natural consequences and rewards is having a resounding influence on the children's behaviour.

Children know how to make a complaint. The manager and responsible individual treat all complaints and allegations seriously. Staff and children are debriefed after incidents occur. Allegations and complaints are swiftly addressed, and investigations are completed in accordance with safeguarding procedures. Staff performance issues are dealt with speedily to ensure safety. This highly effective approach to safeguarding means that children have a strong sense of safety and an assurance that staff believe them.

Children are held and guided for their safety and the safety of others. Leaders and managers have a comprehensive monitoring system for every occasion a child is held. This keeps the children safe. However, the manager's written evaluation of incidents does not fully represent the excellent quality of their analysis and oversight.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

A detailed and comprehensive handover of management responsibilities has occurred between the outgoing registered manager and the new acting manager. This has led to a seamless transition for leadership for the team and children.

The manager demonstrates inspirational leadership, showing influential confidence and a strong ambition for the children's success and well-being. Through their influence, they have driven meaningful improvements not only in the lives of the children but also in staff practice.

Leaders and managers consistently generate creative ideas to ensure the highest standards of care for children. Staff say they are well managed and supported and

the manager leads by example. This strong leadership creates a positive culture of accountability and child-centred practice throughout the team.

The manager knows the team's strengths and has innovative ideas to sustain the highest quality of care for the children. The manager designed a children's wishes and feelings development plan that tracks the children's important requests and views. This ensures that children remain at the centre of staff practice.

Professionals speak highly about staff's commitment to meeting the needs of the children, and they say staff go above and beyond. The manager places a lot of confidence in the level of scrutiny from professionals and the independent visitor, which helps her to monitor the home effectively.

The manager is keen to develop leadership potential. Staff are given additional responsibilities, overseeing specific areas of the home. This distribution of leadership strengthens the team's overall performance and skills that benefit the children.

Staff are motivated and actively engage in further training opportunities. The managing conflict course was introduced following staff feedback and management of allegations. The course helps staff to reflect on their behaviours and improve communication, leading to noticeable positive changes. Furthermore, the responsible individual recognises the emotional demands of the work staff do with children and has extended equine therapy resources to staff.

The focus on staff's well-being results in supervision being a safe space that empowers staff development and well-being. New staff benefit from a comprehensive induction programme that includes fortnightly supervision. However, this frequency of supervision has not been for all new starters.

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that new staff receive timely supervision in accordance with the induction process. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 53, paragraph 10.8)
- The registered person should ensure that the written management evaluation of physical intervention includes their views whether the method of intervention is proportionate. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 49, paragraph 9.55)

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: 2680042

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Parker SC Ltd

Registered provider address: Suite 12 Evolution Business Centre, Unit 6, County Business Park, Darlington Road, Northallerton DL6 2NQ

Responsible individual: Natalie Raw

Registered manager: Rachel Ridley

Inspector

Tenji Wesa, Social Care Inspector

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