

2685997

Registered provider: Evolve Residential Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

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

At the time of the inspection, 2 children were living at the home. The inspector spoke with both children.

The manager registered with Ofsted in October 2022.

Inspection dates: 28 and 29 April 2026

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: 7 May 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/05/2025	Full	Good
19/06/2024	Full	Good
03/05/2023	Full	Good

Summary of findings

Staff develop positive and nurturing relationships with children. They have a good understanding of the children's individual needs and personalities. They offer children comfort and sensitive care while maintaining structured routines. As a result, children continue to make good progress in all areas of their lives.

Children say that they feel safe living in the home. The registered manager thoroughly reviews risks through multi-agency information-sharing and planning. Staff enable children to create their own safety plans with support. This helps children to confidently share information with staff about their experiences in the community and be helped to stay safe.

The registered manager is suitably qualified and experienced. She leads a staff team that is committed to the care and needs of the children. She understands the home's strengths and areas for further development. She aspires for children to consistently achieve good outcomes.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The quality of children's experiences on a day-to-day basis helps them to enjoy stability and make good progress.

Children are helped to develop independence according to their understanding and ability. One child, who enjoys cooking, is supported and closely monitored by staff to safely use the cooker and sharp utensils. Staff and children celebrate each small step towards completing independence tasks.

Children attend education. When there are barriers to attendance, staff and teachers work together to sensitively manage the needs affecting their education. One professional said that children are making good progress because of the consistent and nurturing care that they receive from staff.

Staff recognise the importance of family time and have developed positive relationships with families. Staff maintain good lines of communication to keep family members informed about children's progress and experiences. One parent said that staff communicate well about any concerns and progress their child makes.

Staff help children to enjoy a range of activities. They enable children to enjoy holidays together, which helps them to develop more positive bonds. They encourage children to engage in positive hobbies and be involved in local groups, such as scouts.

The home is spacious and comfortable. The registered manager has plans to enhance this by turning one bedroom into a sensory room. This will greatly benefit one child with

additional needs. Improvements were being made during the inspection to some internal and external areas of the home.

Children have individualised care plans. When their needs increase, staff work closely with professionals to ensure that appropriate assessments take place and support is given. The registered manager has enabled one child with a new diagnosis to continue to live in the home. However, the registered manager has not notified the regulator of the proposed changes to their conditions of registration.

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

When one child's risks in the community were increasing due to their level of vulnerability, staff supported the child to create their own safety plan. This included choosing their own safety question for when they need staff to remove them from potential risky stations. This inclusive way of working is keeping the child safer.

Children rarely go missing from the home. When they do not return home on time from their social time, staff act quickly to find them. They involve families and friends and coordinate with the local police. When children are found and return to the home, staff speak to them to help them reflect on their actions and understand why they have gone missing.

Staff spend time with children on a daily basis, helping them to develop effective strategies to manage their emotions better. This has resulted in a reduction in the number of physical interventions needed to stop children from hurting themselves or others.

Children know how to complain. The registered manager ensures that any allegations against staff are investigated thoroughly. She ensures that shortfalls in staff performance are managed rigorously to ensure that children are safeguarded. Children receive feedback in writing and understand what has happened because of their complaint. However, not all children have been offered independent advocacy.

Staff are skilled in the administration of medication. Two medication errors have occurred for the same child, with no adverse effects to their health. The registered manager has thoroughly reviewed the incidents and ensured that staff understand the importance of accurate administration and recording of medication to prevent further errors.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager has effective management auditing and monitoring tools in place, and any shortfalls are identified and addressed quickly. Her monthly reflections with the deputy manager are effective at creating a consistent approach for staff. In addition to this, the registered manager has appointed a new independent visitor to the home. She has high expectations that they will provide a fresh perspective at improving practice in the home.

Staff say that they are supported by managers. They enjoy working in the home and speak affectionately about the children. Staff are proud of the learning and safeguarding culture in the team, which keeps the children safe.

Staffing insufficiency means that agency workers are often used. However, the children are not affected by the staffing ratios and care is taken to ensure that agency staff work alongside staff who the children are familiar with.

Staff maintain positive, professional relationships with each other and wider professionals. The quality of these relationships ensures the best possible all-round support to children in all areas of their development. Professionals say that staff know the children well, communicate effectively and their commitment to the children results in stability and security for children.

Leaders and managers provide the right supportive environment for all staff through effective supervision and a good-quality induction. The registered manager ensures that safe recruitment of staff is in place. This means that only people who are vetted and experienced work in this home. However, the registered manager has not ensured that staff have the relevant and necessary qualifications in supporting children with a learning disability.

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person 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 must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
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— ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications, and skills to meet the needs of each child. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)) The registered person must ensure that staff have the relevant skills to meet the children's learning disability needs.	29 July 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— 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. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a))	15 May 2026

The registered person must ensure that they are functioning outside of their conditions of registration.	
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Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that all children have access to an independent advocate to advise them and ensure they have the support needed to express their views, wishes and feelings about their care and lives. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 23, paragraph 4.16)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2685997

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Evolve Residential Limited

Registered provider address: S W Accountants, 73 Duke Street, Darlington DL3 7SD

Responsible individual: Yvonne Bartlett

Registered manager: Elizabeth Temperley

Inspector

Tenji Wesa, Social Care Inspector

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