

2694962

Registered provider: Trinity Care and Education Services Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is operated by a private provider. It is registered to provide care for up to two children. The home's statement of purpose states that children may have social and emotional difficulties and may have complex needs based on their previous experiences.

The manager registered with Ofsted in September 2022. This is the home's first inspection.

There has been one child living in this home since November 2022.

Inspection dates: 18 and 19 January 2023

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: Not previously inspected

Overall judgement at last inspection: not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection: not applicable

Recent inspection history

Not previously inspected.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The child lives in a genuinely caring environment where they are supported by staff who understand their needs and are getting to know them well.

The child has begun to develop trusting relationships with staff, which form the basis of the effective work between them, as identified in the child's individual plans.

Staff undertake meaningful direct work with the child. This has enhanced the child's understanding of their risk taking behaviour and helped them to feel safe. This has also resulted in increased confidence and self-esteem.

The child said, 'I love living here. The staff look after me and take me to lots of places. I am doing well with my lessons. I go to church, and I have made lots of friends. I went to a birthday party and that was brilliant!'

The child is making excellent progress in most aspects of their life. Joint working with other agencies is integral to all aspects of the staff's and manager's practice, and plans are devised from a joint-professional perspective. This ensures consistency and the best possible outcomes for the child.

The child has access to a wide variety of activities. This enables them to try out and experience new situations and nurtures their particular interests and skills.

Staff demonstrate the value they place on the child's education and use every possible opportunity to enhance this. Managers have worked tirelessly to secure an appropriate educational placement and have ensured that an excellent interim package of education is in place. This is monitored carefully and supported through numerous educational trips and outings provided by staff.

The child's health is valued and promoted. Staff ensure that the child's health needs are met. They support and encourage the child to eat healthily and get involved in cooking meals in the home. This enables the child to learn about good nutritional food, while promoting independence skills and developing confidence and self-esteem.

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

The child feels safe because they trust the staff who look after them and know that all decisions are made to protect them and safeguard their welfare.

The child is beginning to understand what safer relationships look like. This is because staff spend a significant amount of time talking to them and engaging them in understanding what it is to feel safe and be kept safe.

Staff challenge any risk-taking behaviours and successfully encourage the child to learn how to make good decisions independently.

Staff effectively use individual key-working sessions with the child to look at broader safeguarding matters. This enables the child to begin to understand that their own behaviour may impact on their safety.

The home is beautifully decorated and furnished and is safe and well maintained. All health and safety checks are undertaken regularly. Any maintenance issues arising are dealt with promptly.

Managers and staff acknowledge acknowledged that risk assessment is a process rather than a single document. However, a lack of clarity in some written documents weakens this process. In addition, staff may rely heavily on these written documents, further reiterating the need for clarity and accuracy.

Staff do not rigorously monitor the child's use of social media. This could potentially provide an opportunity for the child to have contact with unknown people and be put at risk.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home and new manager were registered with Ofsted in September 2022. Given the short time he has been in post, the registered manager has made significant changes and improvements to the service. He has worked hard with his staff team to prepare for children coming to live in the home. This has laid solid foundations for work to be undertaken with the child in placement, to support them to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Introductions to the home are planned sensitively to ensure that children have the best possible experience of moving to the home. Children's guides are individualised and contain the relevant information about the home and the staff team. They outline what children can expect while living in this home and who they can talk to. This includes how to make a complaint should they need to, and what they can expect in response.

The home is well staffed and resourced to meet children's needs. Staff report that they feel listened to and are empowered to share ideas about how best to meet the needs of the child. This has resulted in consistency within the staff group and provides security and continuity for the child.

Managers and staff have high aspirations for the child and continually seek to improve the service and the quality of care and support provided. The child's progress is monitored carefully. Their successes, no matter how small, are celebrated. This means that the child feels valued and, as a result, their confidence, self-esteem and aspirations have been significantly raised.

The independent visitor reports do not focus on the needs or progress of the child

and do not provide the manager with a detailed independent overview of the service or practice.

Records are not maintained in a manner that makes information easily accessible to staff.

The registered manager and deputy manager provide support to a number of other homes within the organisation. This significantly limits their capacity to develop the service offered by this home. Monitoring systems are in place but the limits in management capacity have resulted in some gaps in the monitoring of recording practice.

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, 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; 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. (Regulation 12 (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)) In particular, ensure that all aspects of the child's use of social media is addressed in the risk assessments, and that the strategies to be used by staff in order to protect children and reduce the risk of significant harm are sufficiently detailed.	1 April 2023
The independent person must produce a report about a visit ("the independent person's report") which sets out, in particular, the independent person's opinion as to whether— children are effectively safeguarded; and the conduct of the home promotes children's well-being. (Regulation 44 (a) (b)) In particular, ensure that there is sufficient detail in the report, which provides good-quality information to support the manager's monitoring of the home.	1 April 2023

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff continually and actively assess the risks to each child and the arrangements in place to protect them. Where there are safeguarding concerns for a child, their placement plan, agreed between the home and their placing authority, must include details of the steps the home will take to manage any assessed risks on a day-to-day basis. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 42, paragraph 9.5)
- The registered person should ensure that any registered manager employed in the home should have sufficient capacity to ensure that the quality standards are met for each child in the home. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 52, paragraph 10.7)
- The registered person should ensure that staff are familiar with the home's policies on record-keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective and clear recording, including staff having easy access to information. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

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: 2694962

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Trinity Care and Education Services Limited

Registered provider address: Unit 8 Venus House, Altham Business Park,
Altham, Accrington BB5 5BY

Responsible individual: Chukwukem Mafe

Registered manager: Benjamin Stenton

Inspector

Jacqueline Georgiou, Social Care Inspector

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