

2700358

Registered provider: Formations Care Services 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 provider. It provides care for up to two children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered in August 2024. The manager was unable to be present for this inspection.

One child was living at the home at the time of this inspection. They were spoken to as part of the inspection. No other children have lived at the home since the last inspection.

Inspection dates: 4 and 5 November 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: 28 August 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/08/2024	Full	Good
07/06/2023	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The child living in this home enjoys a strong sense of stability and belonging. They have lived in the home for over three years. Most staff have worked in the home for a significant period, and there is little staff turnover. Staff promote a family-style atmosphere where the child feels relaxed.

The child has made progress since the last inspection in several areas. Staff support them to develop their independence and self-care skills. Staff encourage the child to engage with the community. The child volunteers at a local cattery once a week and has also provided help to homeless people. Staff have helped the child to develop their emotional intelligence and self-reflection.

Staff work with the child's family to meet their emotional and identity needs. Leaders adopt a family-focused approach to help parents to make progress as well as their child. The child's parents can visit unannounced. Staff welcome them inside and offer them refreshments. This approach is like a typical family home. The child's parents describe staff as 'top notch'.

Staff support the child when they experience challenges, such as at school or with their health. As the child is not currently in school, staff promote opportunities for informal education. This includes trips to a museum and home tuition. Leaders advocate for a return to formal education as soon as possible.

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

The child feels safe in the home, and staff act to keep them safe. Leaders support staff with writing assessments and plans that are clear and easy to follow. As a result, staff have a solid understanding of the child's needs and how to protect them from harm.

Staff create physical and emotional safety for the child. The home environment is secure and well maintained. Leaders complete safe recruitment checks for new staff. Leaders work with and hold multi-agency partners to account to support the child. Staff hold regular discussions with the child to help them develop their sense of safety.

The child enjoys very beneficial and caring relationships with staff. Staff base these on mutual trust and respect. Staff help the child to reflect on their feelings and behaviour. They promote positive behaviour within the home. Staff use appropriate challenge and intervene when needed. They can manage the child's behaviour to avoid using physical restraint.

Management oversight is not evident across all aspects of safeguarding. As a result, leaders have not always identified areas for development in staff's collective practice. However, leaders have acted to address any gaps in an individual's performance.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The child benefits from strong and stable leadership of the home. The registered manager has been in post for over a year. A deputy manager and senior leaders, with significant experience, support the manager. The independent visitor supports them with strong external monitoring. Leaders have met the previous recommendations.

Leaders promote a culture of safeguarding and high aspirations for children. Staff prepare plans for the child that are individual to them. Leaders track the child's progress and have a clear understanding of the child's strengths and vulnerabilities. Staff keep records about the child that they write in a caring and sensitive way.

Staff say that they feel well supported by the manager and their deputy. Leaders provide staff with a sound induction and training to prepare them for the role. Leaders use supervision and appraisals to hold staff accountable and offer support.

The manager has updated the home's review of premises to consider new information about the local area to keep the child safe in the community. Furthermore, leaders promote a sense of positive community engagement for the child.

Leaders seek feedback from the child and others to inform the development of the home. However, they do not use research-based evidence to good effect to support and develop staff's practice.

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— demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on— research and developments in relation to the ways in which the needs of children are best met; and use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(g)(i)(h))	5 February 2026

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff have regard to the relevant aspects of the document 'Statutory guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care' as well as local protocols. In particular, the registered person should ensure that all staff understand when a child should be treated either as absent or missing from care and the appropriate action to take as a result. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 45, paragraph 9.25)

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: 2700358

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Formations Care Services Limited

Registered provider address: Formations Care Services, 2 St. Pauls Road, Shipley
BD18 3EP

Responsible individual: Zoe Duffy

Registered manager: Emma Bowers

Inspector

Sam Saxby-Brown, Social Care Regulatory Inspector

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