

2701100

Registered provider: CF Social Work Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is run by an independent provider. The home cares for up to 2 children with social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in October 2025.

Inspection dates: 10 and 11 December 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: 1 May 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/05/2024	Full	Good
26/06/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
11/04/2023	Full	Inadequate

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

At the time of this inspection, two children were living at the home and have been there for over 2 years. Children have all made progress from their individual starting points and are settled.

Children are in good health and their health needs are met. Staff ensure that children attend health appointments. One child has started therapeutic support, which was not possible before moving to the home. Staff have therapeutic advice, which helps them to support children consistently. This is helping to improve children's emotional wellbeing.

Children's education is well supported. Previously, children had not been accessing education. They are all now in full-time education and attending regularly. Staff are committed to supporting children's learning and development. They help children with their formal homework and provide informal learning opportunities through reflective conversations.

Children enjoy an extensive range of exciting and enjoyable activities, such as camping trips, theme parks, bowling and going to the arcades. Staff encourage children to try new experiences as well as engage in activities that they enjoy, which helps children to make progress in their social and emotional wellbeing.

Staff support children to spend time with their family and to spend time with friends at the home and in the community. These connections support children's identity and help them to build social relationships.

Staff place a firm emphasis on memory making. Special occasions, such as Halloween and Christmas, are celebrated and provide children with enjoyable childhood experiences. Staff capture the memories and progress that children make in individual memory books, giving children a record to reflect the things they have done and celebrated.

Children are regularly consulted and supported to have their say and an input into the home, giving them a sense of control over their lives and pride in where they live.

The manager and staff have created a home that is welcoming and warm, where children are spoken about with care and compassion. Children's bedrooms are personalised to their tastes and what is important to them. Generally, the house is maintained and furnished to a good standard. However, the flooring in the kitchen and bathroom are showing signs of wear and tear.

Kitchen items, such as sharp knives, cheese graters and peelers, are locked away without any specific reason or risk. There has been no consideration of the limitations

that this provides to children's development of independence skills and their understanding of how to manage risk.

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

The home is very settled, with few incidents. The children's risk assessments and care plans are detailed and provide clear strategies for staff to use.

The staff have a clear understanding and acknowledgment of the risks that the online world poses to children. There are regular checks and measures in place to limit these concerns and address issues to ensure that children are supported and educated to navigate online platforms safely.

Staff have meaningful conversations with children about their needs and vulnerabilities, helping them to think about their behaviour and how it could be different. There is a strong restorative philosophy at the home.

Staff regularly praise children for their achievements and offer them rewards. Staff use different incentives that are appropriate to the age and needs of the children, while recognising varying forms of progress. This reinforcement and acknowledgement contribute positively to children's self-esteem.

The location risk assessment identifies risks associated with the location. However, there has been no external consultation to ensure that staff are continually informed of potential concerns in the area and consider risk-mitigating strategies.

Allegations of harm are taken seriously. Information is shared with relevant agencies and children spoken to and informed of the outcome. This increases children's safety. However, on two occasions, the manager did not notify Ofsted of allegations against staff, which compromises the external oversight of the home.

The fire risk assessment identified high-priority concerns, which have remained outstanding for a significant time period without a clear plan to address them. At the time of inspection, immediate steps to rectify these were implemented.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager has recently registered with Ofsted and is a permanent figure in the home. Despite there being several changes in staffing and management, there has been a clear focus on ensuring consistency and stability for children.

The manager has high aspirations and is passionate about the care provided to children. The manager is keen to develop the home and the staff team to support children's progress. Staff said that they feel well supported by the manager and that she is approachable and present. This has contributed to good staff morale.

Positive feedback from professionals and children's family members highlights a child-centred commitment from staff.

Leaders and managers have effective systems for the oversight of all events and records. They use external and internal mechanisms to recognise the areas of development and progress.

The staff benefit from regular team meetings and supervision sessions. These are child focused, helping staff to enhance their skills and understanding of their roles to support children. Staff and managers consult the home's clinical support to obtain a therapeutic overview of children's behaviour. This guidance provides staff with effective support and opportunities for learning and reflection that enhances 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, 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
If the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005(1) applies to the home— the registered person must ensure that the requirements of that Order and any regulations made under it, except for article 23 (duties of employees), are complied with in respect of the home. (Regulation 25 (2)(b)) In particular, carry out the measures specified in the external fire risk assessment.	12 January 2026
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation; an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious; there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; a child protection enquiry involving a child— is instigated; or concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))	12 January 2026

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff provide a nurturing environment that is welcoming. In particular, ensure that repairs and general maintenance are carried out without delay. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.7)
- The registered person should ensure that any decisions to limit a child's access to any area of the home and any modifications to the environment of the home, must only be made where this is intended to safeguard the child's welfare. All decisions should be informed by a rigorous assessment of that individual child's needs, properly recorded and kept under regular review. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.10)
- The registered person should ensure that when completing the review of the appropriateness and suitability of the location and premises of the home, up-to-date information is sought from relevant people. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 64, paragraph 15.1)

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: 2701100

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: CF Social Work Limited

Registered provider address: CF Social Work, 3-4b K Line House, West Road,
Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9SX

Responsible individual: Andrew Robinson-Watts

Registered manager: Natalie Eagling

Inspector

Naomi Starbuck, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

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