

2701362

Registered provider: Wakefield Council

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a local authority. It provides care for up to two children who may experience social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the inspection, one child was living in the home, and they were spoken with. Another child had recently moved out of the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in December 2022.

Inspection dates: 16 and 17 September 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 12 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/11/2024	Full	Good
12/09/2023	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The child spoke very positively about living in the home. They voiced that the staff work alongside them and that they have had new experiences during their time at the home. Memory books provide a clear story of the experiences that are offered to the children.

Children's meetings are adapted to the children's needs and, at times, take place in an unstructured way. Staff support the discussion of world events and explore the 'word of the month'. The recording shows the children are linking their own experiences to these discussions. The wishes of the children are clearly recorded, and there is detailed evidence that their requests have been listened to and actioned.

The home environment has been adapted and made safe for children with specialist needs. Children are supported to understand the care offered to them through the use of social stories and adapted communication methods when they are required.

The children are provided with nurture and support from a knowledgeable team of staff who have adapted and worked under challenging circumstances. The level of care provided to the children has at no time been affected.

Education is a focus for the children. Staff seek help from relevant professionals to support finding suitable school environments. Where provisions are identified as not suitable to meet the children's needs, the staff continually escalate their concerns. They advocate for children until a provision is found that will enable the children to fulfil their potential.

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

This has been a challenging period, with a high number of serious incidents occurring. The recording of every incident is detailed, reflective and overseen by the manager. Children always receive detailed feedback from staff after an incident, and they are also supported to learn about any linked risks through supportive conversations.

Staff have a clear understanding of how to support the children in their care, and they act in line with the recorded plans. Staff know that children are at risk when they go missing from the home. The staff's response helps to ensure children are found and returned home. When children are safely back at home, staff offer nurture and support, and if required, medical attention is sought.

Children live in a hazard-free home. Any maintenance issues and health and safety checks are prioritised by the staff to ensure the home is safe. Detailed testing is carried out with comprehensive recording. Where work is identified, it is actioned in a timely manner.

Natural, restorative consequences are the focus in the home. These are supporting the children's learning and the skills linked to their independence plans.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

Managers in the home excel at meeting the needs of the children and the staff team. Managers are highly focused on providing the highest level of care and support to the children and continually advocating on their behalf.

Managers professionally challenge senior leaders. This ensures that the care provided to the children is in line with the children's needs and wishes and not linked to financial decision-making.

The children have been consulted in detail over the last year to ensure that their voices and wishes are heard. Their wishes and feelings have informed their care planning and the running and presentation of the home.

The managers are invested in the well-being of the staff. Staff have been supported through a challenging period. Managers ensured that staff were emotionally supported but also professionally supported to fulfil their role. The managers created detailed training plans that were implemented to develop staff's knowledge and confidence around deprivation of liberty orders.

Managers have created an environment for staff and children that is linked to high aspirations and achievements. The expectations of the staff ensure that the lives of the children change positively, with them having access to varied new experiences.

There are strong professional relationships with external agencies. New, innovative approaches are now in place, and research is being used to support the team and improve the outcomes for children.

Staff supervision sessions include supportive discussions that encourage personal and professional reflection. There is a focus on the needs of the children and the professional needs of the staff team. Staff are supported to develop their knowledge and approaches with the use of care models and theories.

No requirements or recommendations were made at this inspection.

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: 2701362

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Wakefield Council

Registered provider address: County Hall, Bond Street, Wakefield WF1 2QW

Responsible individual: Cheryl Whitehouse

Registered manager: Ihsan Manzoor

Inspector

Rachel Moore, Social Care Inspector

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