

2702150

Registered provider: Wakefield Council

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and run by a local authority. It provides care for up to two children who may experience social and emotional difficulties. Two children were living at the home at the time of the inspection, and one child was spoken with.

The home registered with Ofsted in December 2022, and the suitably qualified manager was registered at the same time.

Inspection dates: 25 and 26 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	requires improvement to be 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: 5 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
05/11/2024	Full	Good
03/07/2023	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, two children have successfully moved on from the home. One child moved into supported accommodation and the other child returned to live with their family. Both children are reported to be progressing well.

Children benefit from positive and trusting relationships with staff. Staff provide consistent emotional support, which helps children to feel safe and valued.

Children's health needs are met. They are registered with local health services, and staff ensure that they attend all necessary appointments. Staff work closely with emotional wellbeing professionals to implement strategies that support children's individual needs. Nutritious and balanced meals are provided, and children enjoy an active lifestyle. These measures promote positive health outcomes.

Education is prioritised and tailored to each child's individual needs. Staff demonstrate a clear understanding of the importance of education and actively support children's attendance. Staff encourage children to participate in household chores, fostering a sense of community and teaching essential independence skills.

Children know how to make complaints and they feel confident approaching staff if they have concerns. Regular meetings enable children to express their wishes and feelings, and they have access to independent advocacy services. This ensures that children's voices are heard and respected.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities that reflect their interests and talents, including swimming, visits to theme parks and holidays. These experiences provide opportunities for new learning and help to build children's confidence.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: requires improvement to be good

Staff's care of children is not always delivered in a consistently safe way. Despite risk assessments and behaviour management plans being in place, staff have not followed this guidance. As a result of these inconsistencies, there was one serious incident where a child was not safeguarded effectively. This shortfall does not promote the wellbeing and safety of children.

When children go missing from the home, staff follow appropriate protocols. They work closely with local police teams and social workers to locate children quickly. Staff ensure that children receive independent return-home interviews. However, on some occasions, staff have not gone out to search for children due to insufficient staffing levels. This does not ensure that children are consistently protected from harm.

Children benefit from a restorative approach that helps them to learn from and manage their own behaviour. The trusting relationships that children have with staff enable them to talk openly and explore their feelings. This supports children to manage their emotions more effectively. Consequently, there has been no use of physical intervention since the last inspection.

When incidents occur, the manager maintains oversight and ensures that staff, generally, record these events well. Staff hold regular discussions with children about how to keep themselves safe. These conversations help children to understand risks and increase their safety in an informal way.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is managed by a permanent and suitably experienced registered manager, who is supported by a committed deputy manager. Leaders and managers respond promptly to poor staff practice, following safeguarding procedures to protect children. This ensures that children are better safeguarded from harm.

There is a stable staff team in the home, which provides consistency and stability for children. Staff report feeling valued and well supported. They are given opportunities to take on additional responsibilities, helping them to develop their practice and creating an ethos of shared ownership in improving the quality of care for children.

The manager ensures that staff are well supported to carry out their roles effectively. Staff have completed a variety of suitable and relevant training to enhance their knowledge and skills.

Staff benefit from regular, reflective supervision sessions. Supervision records are detailed and include evaluations of children's progress, guidance and professional challenge. This ensures that staff receive the right support to improve their practice and promote children's wellbeing effectively.

Team meetings take place regularly, providing staff with opportunities to share information and work collaboratively. This promotes a consistent team approach to meeting children's needs.

The manager works proactively with other professionals on a day-to-day basis and demonstrates a clear understanding of the importance of effective communication and multi-agency working.

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 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— understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; and that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(v)(vii)(b))	30 January 2026

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: 2702150

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

Evelyn Chafota, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
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E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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