

2711614

Registered provider: Unity Residential Care Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run home provides care for up to four children with social and emotional difficulties.

A manager has been appointed and has applied to register with Ofsted.

At the time of this inspection, one child was living at the home. This child has moved into the home since the last full inspection.

Inspection dates: 21 and 22 October 2024

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: 16 July 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: inadequate

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/07/2024	Full	Inadequate
05/12/2023	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The quality of care provided by the home has improved.

The child has built positive relationships with the staff and feedback from external professionals is positive. The care provided and the home environment offer the child a sense of belonging.

The child is having positive experiences. For example, staff are supporting the child in creating a life-story book. This work focuses on the child's journey and the positive experiences they have had while living in the home.

The home environment is welcoming, well presented, secure and clean. The home is a safe space that enables the child to express their wishes. The child has been involved in decisions in the home, including how to decorate their bedroom.

Staff are committed to promoting the child's cultural and religious beliefs. Community-based activities develop social awareness and identity. Regular key-work sessions further the child's understanding of emotional regulation and life experiences. Staff promote educational attainment.

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

Staff are committed to promoting the welfare of the child. Preventative measures and effective systems are in place to support the child if they go missing from the home. Staff work with a range of agencies to ensure that a multi-agency approach is used to reduce risk.

Staff know the child well and, through effective responses, keep the child safe. Staff monitor the child's contact with family and friends to ensure that all the appropriate safeguards are in place. The staff listen to the child and support them to have time in the community with their friends.

Risk assessments are up to date and reflect the child's care plan. The child engages in positive activities in the community, enhancing their social skills. Due to the progress the child has made since moving into the home, past levels of supervision have been reduced.

Staff advocate on behalf of the child and escalate concerns. Communication with professionals is consistent and child-focused. This is particularly noticeable around accessing additional support services.

Staff receive training that is specific to the needs of the child. New members of staff receive a comprehensive induction to help them develop their skills.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Since the last inspection, the leadership team has worked hard to create stable foundations for care in the home. Leaders have made good progress in their development of the home, including their application of theory-informed practice.

Leaders have created a reflective learning environment. Staff are receiving good-quality regular supervision sessions and annual appraisals. These sessions help to support professional development and learning.

Monitoring systems are in place. The manager has oversight of the standards of care in the home and makes sure that these align with the statement of purpose. The manager ensures that staff have good knowledge and understanding of the child's needs. This is evident in records of team meetings and workshops.

The manager has completed their regulation 45 review of the quality of care. The report provides a detailed review of the care provided by the home. However, it was not completed within the correct time frame.

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
The registered person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children ("a quality of care review") at least once every 6 months. In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating— the quality of care provided for children; the feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided for children. After completing a quality of care review, the registered person must produce a written report about the quality of care review and the actions which the registered person intends to take as a result of the quality of care review ("the quality of care review report"). The registered person must— supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality of care review is completed; and make a copy of the quality of care review report available on request to a placing authority, if the placing authority is not the parent of a child accommodated in the home. The system referred to in paragraph (2) must provide for ascertaining and considering the opinions of children, their parents, placing authorities and staff. (Regulation 45 (1) (2)(a)(b)(c) (3) (4)(a)(b) (5))	29 November 2024

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: 2711614

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Unity Residential Care Ltd

Registered provider address: Unity Residential Care Ltd, 30 Chadwell Avenue,
Romford RM6 4QH

Responsible individual: Nasae Evanson

Registered manager Post vacant

Inspectors

Helen Daniel, Social Care Inspector
Natalie Mitchell, Social Care Inspector

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