

2712284

Registered provider: Park Blue Homes Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private organisation. It provides care for up to three children who experience social and emotional difficulties and may also have learning disabilities.

At the time of this inspection, two children were living at the home.

A manager is currently in post but is not yet registered with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 3 February 2026

Date of last inspection: 8 July 2025

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector has looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Children benefit from warm and trusting relationships with staff, which helps them to feel understood and supported.

Staff have a sound understanding of the individual risks faced by children and take appropriate action to manage these. They follow children's safety plans and ensure that agreed strategies are implemented in day-to-day practice. When children spend time in the community, staff maintain regular checks and stay in contact to confirm their welfare.

Staff encourage and support children to take part in activities, hobbies and social opportunities that help build their confidence. They also actively promote and support family time, recognising how important these relationships are for children's emotional wellbeing and sense of identity.

Staff support children to develop their independence, and there are positive examples of them encouraging skills such as cooking and taking part in day-to-day tasks. However, the level of support is not always consistent, and children do not always receive the same opportunities to practise skills that will help them prepare for future transitions. This means their experience of learning tasks such as budgeting, household routines and personal self-care can vary, and at times this limits how confident they feel in managing these responsibilities.

Leaders, managers and staff work effectively with the wider professional network to support children's safety and welfare. They maintain regular contact with social workers, education providers, and health professionals, ensuring that relevant information is shared promptly. Professionals report that communication from the home is excellent, noting that staff are proactive in seeking guidance, contributing to multi-agency planning and providing clear, detailed updates. This collaborative approach helps to ensure that children's needs are understood and responded to in a coordinated way.

Managers take steps to identify and address gaps in staff knowledge and skills, and targeted training helps ensure staff feel more confident and competent in meeting children's needs. However, the provision of supervision sessions and training for bank staff is not as consistent as that of permanent staff, and this remains an area where management oversight is less robust.

The behaviour of one child had a sustained impact on another child's emotional wellbeing and their sense of safety within the home. Although staff worked hard to manage the situation and offer reassurance, the instability persisted for some time,



as did the negative impact on the affected child. Managers subsequently took the decision to end one child's time living at the home.

There is inconsistency in the quality and oversight of children's individual plans. This variation makes it difficult to see how effectively plans are being monitored or how well they support consistent work with children. Managers are implementing a plan to strengthen this area, but these improvements are not yet fully embedded.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
08/07/2025	Full	Good
19/11/2024	Full	Good
14/06/2023	Full	Good

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, 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 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— understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home; demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on— feedback on the experiences of children, including complaints received; 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)(f)(g)(ii)(h)) In particular, the registered manager must ensure that there is consistent oversight of individual plans, and they are consistently outcome focused and include specific, measurable, realistic, relevant and timebound objectives, to support consistent practice and facilitate effective monitoring.	27 March 2026
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—	27 March 2026

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)(b)) In particular, the registered person must take action to prevent children's behaviour impacting negatively on other children's emotional wellbeing and their sense of safety within the home.	
The registered person must ensure that all employees— undertake appropriate continuing professional development; receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience; (Regulation 33 (4)(a)(b)) In particular, the registered person should ensure that supervision arrangements for bank staff are applied consistently and in line with the home's own policy.	27 March 2026

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff help each child to prepare for any moves from the home, whether they are returning home, moving to another placement or adult care, or to live independently. In particular, staff need to be consistent in providing support with skills such as cooking, housework, budgeting, and personal self-care with clearly set out goals and evidence of progress and outcomes. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 17, paragraph 3.27)



Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2712284

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Park Blue Homes Limited

Registered provider address: 38 Freemans Way, Harrogate HG3 1DH

Responsible individual: Frances Forbes

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Karen Hallam, Social Care Inspector



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