

2716222

Registered provider: Care 4 Every Child Ltd

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private provider. It offers care for up to 4 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, 4 children were living at the home, and all were spoken with.

The manager registered with Ofsted in July 2023.

Inspection date: 20 February 2026

Date of last inspection: 2 April 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

Serious and widespread concerns were found during this assurance inspection in relation to the leadership and management of this home. These shortfalls mean that children have not always been safeguarded effectively.

Physical intervention is recorded appropriately. However, staff do not always use the least restrictive hold. Leaders review incidents but have not considered safer lower-level alternatives to prone holds.

Leaders and managers do not consistently follow safeguarding procedures. When serious allegations have been made, leaders have not supported suspending the member of staff alleged against, despite potential risk to children.

Leaders failed to notify Ofsted of an allegation concerning the registered manager. Oversight of safeguarding notifications is ineffective. This limits accountability and external scrutiny by the regulator.

The registered manager did not follow a risk assessment restricting specific actions. Leaders did not identify this through routine monitoring. Action was taken only after the regulator became involved.

Oversight systems exist but are ineffective. Supervision sessions do not sufficiently challenge safeguarding practice. Leaders and managers have not scrutinised the continued use of prone holds despite references in independent visitor reports. This reduces safeguarding assurance for children.

Children have warm and nurturing relationships with staff. Staff provide children with a sense of permanence and belonging. Staff are committed to supporting children and advocating on their behalf.

Staff know children well and use consistent strategies. The frequency of holds has reduced. Staff anticipate when children are becoming distressed and act early to prevent situations escalating. Staff explore new approaches to support children to manage how they feel.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
02/04/2025	Full	Good
28/05/2024	Full	Good
13/09/2023	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 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— take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(vi)(vii)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that when allegations that pose an immediate risk of danger to children are made against staff, those staff are suspended pending investigation.	1 June 2026
An individual may only carry on a children's home if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (5). The requirements are that— the individual is of integrity and good character. (Regulation 26 (1) (5)(a)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that there is no delay in submitting notifications about serious incidents. The registered person must ensure that risk assessments and safeguarding processes are followed.	1 June 2026

A person may only manage a children's home if— the person is of integrity and good character. (Regulation 28 (1)(a)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that the registered manager adheres to any risk assessments put in place to safeguard children.	1 June 2026
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(e))	1 June 2026

Recommendations

- The registered person should encourage staff to be curious about children's backgrounds. In particular, the registered person should encourage staff to play a full role in understanding the importance of who we are and where we come from by undertaking direct work with the children. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 16, paragraph 3.14)
- The registered person should ensure that when physical intervention involves the use of force, the force used must not be more than is necessary and should be applied in a way that is proportionate. In particular, the registered person should explore the use and effectiveness of any prone holds, and ensure that staff are fully trained in their use. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 48, paragraph 9.50)
- The registered person should ensure that all children's case records are kept up to date. In particular, the registered person should have regular oversight of children's case records through effective monitoring systems so that the necessary changes can be made when required. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 62, paragraph 14.3)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2716222

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Care 4 Every Child Ltd

Registered provider address: Allen Mills Howard & Co, Library Chambers, 48
Union Street, Hyde SK14 1ND

Responsible individual: Angela Hodgkinson

Registered manager: Daniel Holmes

Inspector

Vikki Thwaites, Social Care Inspector

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