

2732583

Registered provider: G B A Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a private company. It offers care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the inspection, three children were living in the home. All three children were spoken with during the inspection.

The interim manager has submitted their application to be registered with Ofsted.

Inspection dates: 29 and 30 April 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	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 21 January 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: inadequate

Enforcement action since last inspection:

On 21 and 22 January 2025, Ofsted carried out a full inspection and identified serious shortfalls relating to the safety and protection of children and the management of allegations. Compliance notices under regulation 12 and a notice restricting accommodation were raised. The steps detailed in the compliance notice were found to be met following a monitoring visit on the 4 March 2025. The restriction on accommodation was lifted.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/01/2025	Full	Inadequate
01/02/2024	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children feel cared for by the staff. They are making progress. Staff identify that the care they provide to the children makes a difference. When children have concerns about their care, they know how to make a complaint. Complaints are responded to in a timely and detailed way that is appropriate to the child's age.

All children attend full-time education and they are making progress. Staff have positive links with the children's teachers, and they encourage school attendance because they want to see children flourish.

Children receive timely health reviews and this helps to ensure that lifelong conditions are monitored and effectively supported. When children are prescribed medication, this is managed well. Medication reviews are arranged with appropriate professionals to ensure that children are administered medication that is beneficial to them. Children routinely go to the dentist and opticians.

The team identified that children's meetings were not fully meeting the needs of the children. Staff worked with one of the children to explore how to improve the agenda and location of the meetings. This child has also encouraged their peers to engage fully with the meetings, which are now enjoyable and interesting.

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

Children live in a safe and secure home. This helps to prevent risks to children. The children are encouraged to participate in gardening and cleaning the home, to develop their own skills towards independence.

The children enjoy using technology. Staff use internet monitoring and phone checks to help to mitigate online risks for children. Staff have knowledge of the risks posed to children online and they help children to develop their knowledge in this area.

When children's risks significantly increase, the staff request support from external professionals. This has resulted in the restriction of children's liberty through legal orders. The staff continue to help the children to enjoy activities and engage in the local area, while understanding the restrictions and their responsibility to help maintain the safety and well-being of children.

Consequences are restorative in nature. The children are encouraged to be involved in these decisions, to further teach them about the effect of their choices. However, the child's voice is not always clear in the recording, but this is identified by managers during their review. The decision-making by the staff is clear, and managers use team meetings to reflect and learn about the future strategies.

The staff are skilled in de-escalation and adept in responding to the children's behaviours. As a last resort, staff will physically hold a child to prevent harm to the child or others. The physical restraint of children is proportionate.

The staff have a detailed knowledge of care plans and risk assessments to follow when children go missing from home. This ensures that staff consistently try to prevent and respond to missing-from-home incidents. Staff will gain support from external professionals to help ensure that children return to the home safely. Children are always welcomed back into the home, and staff have supportive chats with them to understand their experience and identify potential risks.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: requires improvement to be good

An interim manager has been appointed. The interim manager has varied experience in children's residential care and understands the needs and safety of the children. The interim manager's application for registration has been received by the regulator, but unnecessary delay was evident.

External monitoring is routinely taking place. The quality of these reports does not support the interim manager to reflect, learn or develop the service. This is a missed opportunity as there are shortfalls in the manager fulfilling her roles and responsibilities, including notifying the regulator of significant incidents. Not reporting significant incidents affects the regulator's oversight of incidents and the assurance that appropriate actions are taken to protect children.

There is no action or development plan for the home. The interim manager has not been supported to develop this by senior leaders and managers.

The interim manager requires planned, structured support and oversight from senior leaders and managers to support her growth and development. The interim manager is developing her own systems and processes. This will continue to adapt to support their management of the home and their oversight of the needs of the children and staff.

Staffing levels are sufficient to meet the needs of the children. Safer recruitment processes ensure that staff are qualified to deliver high-quality care to the children. Staff speak positively about working at the home.

Leaders, managers and staff have strong working relationships with professionals, resulting in positive outcomes for the children. This includes working with the virtual school to improve children's future outcomes. Leaders, managers and staff are continually striving for children to achieve important milestones, which are regularly celebrated.

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
In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (2)(h)) In particular, ensure that senior managers provide regular support and oversight to the management team.	1 August 2025
Care Standards Act 2000 Any person who carries on or manages an establishment or agency of any description without being registered under this Part in respect of it (as an establishment or, as the case may be, agency of that description) shall be guilty of an offence. (Section 11 (1) Care Standards Act 2000) In particular, the registered person must ensure that the person in day-to-day charge of the home registers with Ofsted.	30 June 2025
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)) In particular, all incidents that meet the regulation should be submitted to Ofsted for review.	1 August 2025

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: 2732583

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: G B A Care Limited

Registered provider address: 2nd Floor Brian Royd Mills, Saddleworth Road, Halifax
HX4 8NF

Responsible individual: Jeremy Siddall

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Rachel Moore, Social Care Inspector

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