

2733827

Registered provider: Lavender Grove Cares Ltd.

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run children's home provides care for one child with social and/or emotional difficulties. The home registered with Ofsted in January 2024.

The registered manager left the home in June 2025. A new manager was appointed and applied to register with Ofsted but has recently withdrawn their application.

Inspection date: 28 April 2026

This monitoring visit

The home was suspended due to serious concerns relating to leadership and a significant incident at the providers other home on 7 February 2026, which raised concerns that the provider was unable to keep children safe. Ofsted undertook a monitoring visit to this home on 24 February 2026 and identified serious and widespread concerns.

This monitoring visit was undertaken to review the provider's compliance with the notice suspending accommodation, to consider the actions taken in response to the suspension, and to review the requirements raised at the last full inspection, which were restated at the monitoring visit on 24 February 2026.

The inspector arrived at the home on 28 April; however, the home was closed. A regulatory inspection manager contacted the director shortly after the inspector's arrival, who confirmed that the setting is closed and that no children are living in the home. The director advised that the manager and responsible individual have resigned and that all staff have been made redundant. As a result, there were no leaders or staff available to facilitate the inspection or provide an update on the actions taken in response to the requirements raised at previous inspections. Therefore, this monitoring visit did not take place.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
14/04/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
23/07/2024	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, 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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— understand and apply the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff— understand and apply the home's statement of purpose; protect and promote each child's welfare; treat each child with dignity and respect; provide personalised care that meets each child's needs, as recorded in the child's relevant plans, taking account of the child's background; help each child to understand and manage the impact of any experience of abuse or neglect. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)) In particular, the registered person should ensure that staff are provided with sufficient information about children's diagnoses, backgrounds, risks and vulnerabilities to fully understand and meet their needs. Staff should also be given clear, individualised care plans that reflect these needs and guide staff on how they should support each child.	30 April 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—	30 April 2026

that staff— understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; 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; 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)(vi)(vii)(b)) In particular, the registered person should ensure that all safeguarding concerns and allegations against staff are responded to in line with policy, and that any actions advised by safeguarding professionals are acted upon without delay.	
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— ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; 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)(c)(h)) In particular, the registered person must implement an effective monitoring system to ensure appropriate oversight and regular review of children's records, including serious incidents, and ensure that information is shared with partner agencies in a timely way. Furthermore, staff should have the appropriate training, skills and experience to meet the needs	30 April 2026

of children, and their training and development needs should be addressed before staff begin supporting children.	
The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust; an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and positive responses to other children and adults. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— meet each child's behavioural and emotional needs, as set out in the child's relevant plans; help each child to develop socially aware behaviour; encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and understanding; communicate to each child expectations about the child's behaviour and ensure that the child understands those expectations in accordance with the child's age and understanding; help each child to understand, in a way that is appropriate according to the child's age and understanding, personal, sexual and social relationships, and how those relationships can be supportive or harmful; strive to gain each child's respect and trust; understand how children's previous experiences and present emotions can be communicated through behaviour and have the competence and skills to interpret these and develop positive relationships with children; are provided with supervision and support to enable them to understand and manage their own feelings and responses to the behaviour and emotions of children, and to help children to do the same. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(viii)(ix)(x))	30 April 2026

In particular, the registered person should ensure that staff have meaningful conversations with children to promote positive behaviour and support children's understanding of diversity and equality.	
The registered person must— ensure that each employee completes an appropriate induction; receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33 (1)(a) (4)(b)) In particular, the registered person should ensure that staff receive reflective supervision to guide and support their practice in meeting the needs of children. Furthermore, all staff must complete an induction programme that equips them with the knowledge and skills required to support children's needs.	30 April 2026

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2733827

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Lavender Grove Cares Ltd.

Registered provider address: Gothic Cottage, Moreton Road, Ongar CM5 0EZ

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: post vacant

Inspector

Angela Reid, social care inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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