

2734721

Registered provider: Rock Housing and Support Services Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is registered with Ofsted to provide care for up to four children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

There is a new manager in post who is working towards completing a relevant qualification. They have applied to Ofsted to be registered.

There was one child living at the home at the time of the inspection.

Inspection dates: 3 and 4 December 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: not applicable

Overall judgement at last inspection: not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection:

The home was registered on 24 November 2023. Ofsted carried out an assurance inspection on 14 March 2024, and serious and widespread concerns were identified. Ofsted imposed a restriction of accommodation. This was reviewed at an assurance inspection on 7 May 2024. At the time of that inspection, no children were living in the home. Some improvements had been made. The restriction of accommodation was lifted and an urgent condition to the home's registration was imposed. This

allowed the provider to care for up to one child at the home. Ofsted reviewed the variation at monitoring inspections that took place on 14 June 2024 and 9 September 2024. A child subsequently moved in, and Ofsted undertook this full inspection. Ofsted are of the view that sufficient progress has been made and the urgent condition to the home's registration has been removed.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The manager carefully considers children's identified needs when she receives requests for children to live in the home. The location of the home and staff skills and experience are assessed to ensure that the needs of the child can be met. Since the last inspection, one child has moved into the home and is making good progress. They have contributed to this inspection.

Staff adapt their communication style to help the child to understand information and share their wishes and feelings. Staff are warm and nurturing in their approach to the child's care. This helps the child to build trusting relationships with staff who understand the child's experiences.

Staff enable the child to develop their understanding of the world around them. They have supported the child's interest in different cultures and faiths and have provided opportunities for the child to explore their faith.

The child enjoys a range of leisure activities, for example, they like playing computer games, cooking and baking and going to the cinema. This enables the child to learn new things while having fun.

The child's individual health needs are well understood by the manager and staff. They have completed additional training from medical specialists to ensure that they can meet the child's complex healthcare needs. One health professional, who knows the child well, recognised the child's positive experiences since living in the home and the improvements in their health. The child is registered with universal health services, and staff ensure that the child attends routine health checks without delay.

The child attends school and is making good progress. Staff motivate the child to attend school daily. They incorporate role play into their routine to encourage the child each morning, which works well. Teachers are pleased with the progress the child is making at school and the effective communication with staff who work in the home.

The child's views and wishes are considered by the manager and staff, and they respond accordingly. For example, the manager recognised a change in the child's emotional needs when they are visiting people who are important to them. As a result, she ensures that there is additional support from staff available to the child, should they need this.

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

Since moving into the home, the child's risks and behaviours have reduced. Staff can identify when the child is finding a situation difficult and are able to divert their

attention effectively. Staff de-escalate potentially difficult situations, and there have been no occasions where staff have needed to use physical intervention to keep the child safe.

Staff ensure that the child has consistent routines and boundaries in place. This helps them to understand what is expected of them, reduces their anxiety and helps them to develop behaviours that are socially acceptable. The child responds well to praise, and this further encourages positive behaviour.

Staff support and encourage the child to develop their skills and understanding around fire safety, road safety and personal safety. This helps the child to make informed decisions about keeping themselves safe.

There have been no concerns or complaints. The child feels able to raise any worries with the manager and staff and knows what to do should he have any concerns. This contributes to the child feeling safe.

The manager and staff understand the risk the internet can pose to children. There are effective systems in place to keep the child safe when online.

Staff are clear about procedures for responding to concerns about the child's safety. When a concern is identified, the manager ensures that it is shared with relevant people and is investigated.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

A new responsible individual and a new manager have been appointed. Both have demonstrated learning specific to assessing the needs of children who move into the home. They are now able to make sound decisions about this.

Staff feel supported by managers. The manager ensures that staff receive regular supervision and attend training relevant to their role and the child they are caring for. Regular team meetings provide staff with the opportunity to reflect on practice and agree plans that enable the child to continue to make progress. The child benefits from being cared for by a consistent staff team.

Effective monitoring systems help the manager to understand the strengths of the home and identify areas that she plans to develop. For example, she has identified home improvements that would make spaces feel more homely.

The manager understands the importance of working effectively with professionals and people who are important to children. They ensure that information is communicated effectively and without delay.

Most staff are working towards achieving a relevant qualification, and one staff member is qualified.

No requirements or recommendations have been made following this inspection.

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: 2734721

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Rock Housing and Support Services Limited

Registered provider address: Suite LP38724, 20-22 Wenlock Road, London N1 7GU

Responsible individual: Post vacant

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Helen Dunn, Social Care Inspector
Latoya Morgan, Social Care Inspector

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