

2737107

Registered provider: Young Options Group Ltd

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The children's home was registered on 4 September 2023 and is operated by a private provider.

The current responsible individual has been in post since March 2025. The manager has been in post since 3 March 2026 and has not yet applied for registration with Ofsted.

The home provides care for up to 2 children with social and emotional difficulties. At the time of this visit, the home was subject to a restriction and only one child was in residence.

Inspection date: 13 March 2026

This monitoring visit

The provider was judged Requires improvement to be good at their most recent full inspection in July 2025.

Following the assurance visit of 15 January 2026, serious and widespread concerns were found. As a result, the service was restricted and 3 compliance notices were served. The purpose of this visit was to monitor compliance with the notices.

The child at the home spoke to the inspector during the visit. They were supported by the service manager, who had been in post for 10 days and was already beginning to establish a positive relationship with them. The child said that they are happy living in the home and view staff positively, particularly valuing the stability that the staff provide. Relationships between the child and the staff are constructive and supportive overall.

Staff demonstrate a strong commitment to safeguarding and promoting the child's welfare. They maintain regular contact when the child is away from the home and use a phone-tracking app to ensure they are aware of the child's whereabouts. Frequent check-ins help staff to monitor the child's wellbeing when they are out with friends. As a result of these approaches, missing-from-home incidents have reduced. Physical intervention has not been used for several months, indicating a more settled period. Staff remain focused on supporting the child, particularly following their exclusion from college, and recognise the importance of promoting positive mental health. They facilitate access to relevant appointments, including those relating to the child's health and wellbeing.

Incident reporting is mostly of good quality, demonstrating reflective practice and a strong emphasis on the child's experience, while also recognising the emotional impact on staff. However, there was a delay of 2 weeks before one incident was reviewed and signed off by the responsible individual. This delay limits the effectiveness of managerial oversight and reduces the timeliness of learning from incidents.

The recently appointed head of operations and the service manager have a clear plan to work collaboratively to improve the quality of care. Their priorities include strengthening oversight, ensuring the child's safety and wellbeing and staff development. Leaders demonstrate an understanding of the areas requiring further progress and are committed to driving improvement across the service.

The child's bedroom is in need of attention, and plans are in place for redecoration. Staff support the child to maintain the cleanliness of the bedroom using a daily checklist. A dynamic risk assessment is completed to monitor the safety of the room, and staff also complete a monthly deep clean. While some other areas of the home also need attention, the general condition of the environment is acceptable.

Staff benefit from regular supervision delivered by qualified and experienced supervisors. Supervision records show reflective and practice-focused discussions, including matters relating to the child. Team meetings occur routinely and are generally of good quality, offering further opportunities for reflective practice. However, meetings do not consistently review actions from previous meetings, limiting the ability to track progress and support continuous development. It is not clear how action points are monitored and revisited.

Managers have ensured that staff have begun completing training relevant to the needs of the child, with further specialised training planned. This includes prevention and management of violence and aggression training and a reflective workshop to support staff in applying the learning effectively.

One member of staff commented positively on the support of leaders and managers during difficult personal circumstances. They also noted improvements in the service

and described the current systems as easier to follow. They stated that they feel positive about working in the home.

Compliance notices relating to Regulation 12 (the protection of children standard) have now been met. However, compliance notices regarding Regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard) and Regulation 27 (the appointment of a manager) still require further work before they can be considered met.

Requirements from the previous full inspection were not reviewed during this visit; however, some requirements overlap with those included in the compliance notices referenced above.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
03/07/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be 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 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— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff work as a team where appropriate; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child; ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to each child; 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; 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)(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(h))	10 May 2026
*The registered provider must appoint a person to manage the children's home if—	10 May 2026

there is no registered manager in respect of the home; and the registered provider— is an organisation or a partnership; does not satisfy regulation 28; or is not, or does not intend to be, in day-to-day charge of the home. If the registered provider appoints a person to manage the home, the registered provider must, without delay, give HMCI notice of— the name of the person so appointed; and the date on which the appointment takes effect. (Regulation 27 (1)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii) (2)(a)(b))	
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— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; help each child to understand how to keep safe; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; 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	10 May 2026

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; that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health; and that the effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(d)(e))	
The registered person must ensure that the following items, which may be kept in electronic form, are kept in an accessible manner— the statement of purpose; the children's guide; placement plans for children who are not looked after (see regulation 18); the policy for safeguarding children (see regulation 34); the policy for preventing bullying (see regulation 34); the missing child policy (see regulation 34); the behaviour management policy (see regulation 35); records of the use of measures of control, discipline or restraint (see regulation 35); children's case records (see regulation 36); other records (see regulation 37); the procedure for considering complaints (see regulation 39); records of complaints (see regulation 39); the independent person's reports (see regulation 44);	10 May 2026

quality of care reviews (see regulation 45); annual reviews of the appropriateness and suitability of the location of the home's premises (see regulation 46). (Regulation 38 (a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(g)(h)(i)(j)(k)(l)(m)(n)(o))	
The registered person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children ("a quality of care review") at least once every 6 months. In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating— The quality of care provided for children; the feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided for children. After completing a quality of care review, the registered person must produce a written report about the quality of care review and the actions which the registered person intends to take as a result of the quality of care review ("the quality of care review report"). The registered person must— supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality of care review is completed; and make a copy of the quality of care review report available on request to a placing authority, if the placing authority is not the parent of a child accommodated in the home. The system referred to in paragraph (2) must provide for ascertaining and considering the opinions of children, their parents, placing authorities and staff. (Regulation 45 (1) (2)(a)(b)(c) (3) (4)(a)(b) (5))	10 May 2026

*These requirements are subject to compliance notices.

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: 2737107

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Young Options Group Ltd

Registered provider address: 128 City Road, London EC1V 2NX

Responsible individual: Gary Wontumi

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Vevene Muhammad, Social Care Inspector

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