

2738777

Registered provider: 4TH Care Ltd

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is operated by a private organisation. The home provides residential short breaks for children with learning disabilities. Children can attend for short breaks in groups of up to three children.

There is a permanent manager at the home, they became registered in July 2025. They are suitably qualified and experienced.

There are a total of four children using the short break service. At the time of the inspection two children were accessing a short break at the home. They spent time with the inspector.

Inspection date: 29 October 2025

Date of last inspection: 27 May 2025

Judgement at last inspection: Requires improvement to be 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

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Children have a good experience during their short breaks. Staff plan children's breaks and provide them with social stories before their visits. As a result, children understand what to expect and this helps them to settle well. Children each have a box of items at the home that are individual and special to them, for example, soft toys and photos. This fosters a good sense of familiarity and belonging.

Staff help children to access a range of activities at the home, for example, baking, craft and outdoor play. Furthermore, children enjoy going out with staff, recent highlights have included pumpkin picking, visits to the farm and local parks. This really enhances children's short break experience.

Children have good access to communication resources. This enables children to share how they are feeling and helps them to make choices. Staff have received additional training to upskill them in children's communication tools and approaches. Information about the home is available in a variety of formats. Managers have included some interactive aspects to this resource to promote children's engagement.

Staff know children well and they understand their needs. As a result, staff and children have built good relationships, children are contented in the company of staff. Staff also understand children's risks, and they provide them with care that keeps them safe. They are attentive to children's needs. They respond swiftly to changes in their presentation; this helps alleviate children's anxieties.

While there have been some staff changes, there is a consistent core staff team. There has been a strong focus on developing the skills and confidence of the staff. However, three staff have not completed their qualification in the required time frame. This reduces the overall expertise of the workforce.

While the manager has made an assessment and a decision for a child to commence short breaks, this process is not documented in their case records.

The manager is now fully established in their role, and they have effective oversight of the home. This has led to improvements in the quality of care and overall experience for children. Leaders and managers are strong and effective role models for the staff team. This motivates staff and creates a positive and welcoming atmosphere.

Leaders and managers have made progress and met all the requirements and one recommendation made at the last inspection. However, one recommendation is restated, along with one new requirement and a further recommendation.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
27/05/2025	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, 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 within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
For the purposes of paragraph (3)(b), an individual who works in the home in a care role has the appropriate qualification if, by the relevant date, the individual has attained— the Level 3 Diploma for Residential Childcare (England) ("the Level 3 Diploma"); or a qualification which the registered person considers to be equivalent to the Level 3 Diploma. The relevant date is— in the case of an individual who starts working in a care role in a home after 1st April 2014, the date which falls 2 years after the date on which the individual started working in a care role in a home. (Regulation 32 (4)(a)(b) (5)(a)) This specifically relates to managers ensuring that staff complete qualifications in line with the timescales. In addition, that managers take urgent action to address any barriers and delays.	30 March 2026

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that they develop and keep under review a "Statement of Purpose" (regulation 16 and schedule 1). The home's Statement of Purpose should be child-focused, indicating how the home provides individualised care to meet the Quality Standards for the children in their care. The statement of purpose must be kept up to date and shared with the regulator. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 14, paragraph 3.5)
- The registered person should ensure that records kept electronically (regulation 38) can be easily accessed by anyone with a legitimate need to view it and, if required, be reproduced in a legible form. The home's records on each child

represent a significant contribution to their life history. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 14.2)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2738777

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: 4TH Care Ltd

Registered provider address: 147 Stamford Hill, London N16 5LG

Responsible individual: Kate Somerside

Registered manager: Paula Williams

Inspector

Alison Snell, Social Care Inspector

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