

2740402

Registered provider: Compass Children's Homes Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run company provides care for up to six children who have experienced childhood trauma and have emotional and behavioural difficulties.

At the time of the inspection, no children were living in the home.

The home does not have a registered manager.

Inspection dates: 10 and 11 June 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	requires improvement to be good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	requires improvement to be good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home is not yet delivering good help and care for children and young people. However, there are no serious or widespread failures that result in their welfare not being safeguarded or promoted.

Date of last inspection: 8 April 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: inadequate

Enforcement action since last inspection: The home was subject to a compliance notice issued under regulation 12 and regulation 13.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
08/04/2025	Full	Inadequate
18/09/2024	Full	Good
23/01/2024	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: requires improvement to be good

Inspectors did not have the opportunity to see or speak with children because they had all moved out of the home.

Since the last full inspection, on 8 and 9 April 2025, children have made limited progress as they moved out home shortly after. However, interim managers and staff worked collaboratively with social workers to support children to move to new homes that are able to meet their needs.

Children experienced further instability after a serious incident prompted interim managers to move children out of the home into temporary accommodation. Despite this, one child continued to attend school full time and achieved a high score in his mock exam. Staff supported two children to increase their school attendance. Two children, who initially struggled to adapt to new boundaries and expectations, began to show some understanding of them, and this prompted a shift in their behaviours. In contrast, staff were unable to help one child who refused to attend school to re-engage in his education. They also did not help them to establish a good routine and did not engage him in educational activities.

Relationships between children and staff started to improve. Staff began to engage in meaningful conversations with children. Children and staff enjoyed some positive experiences together, such as visiting an escape room, going to a water park and enjoying barbecues in the garden.

Interim managers and staff made efforts to ensure that children's transitions were as smooth as possible. Staff spoke openly with children about their moves and provided them with reassurance. They sought children's views, advocated on their behalf and ensured their voices were heard. They helped facilitate meetings between children and their new carers and, when possible, they took children to their new homes.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: requires improvement to be good

Interim managers put strategies in place to mitigate the risk of children accessing the roof. However, for one child, these strategies were not impactful. The child accessed the roof of the building, again, in April 2025 and displayed dangerous behaviours that put them at risk of falling off the roof. The police intervened to safely remove the child from the roof. Interim managers took swift action to safeguard the children by moving them out of the home and into temporary accommodation. The children were relatively settled while staying in temporary accommodation and there were no significant incidents.

Interim managers have supported staff to adjust their perspectives and improve their practice through a combination of training, supervision and revised guidance. There has been a marked improvement in staff's ability to recognise unhealthy relationship dynamics and to identify sexually harmful behaviours. Staff were becoming more curious and exploring the motivations behind children's behaviours. However, this requires more time to become embedded into practice.

Staff started to deliver consistent care to children, making expectations and boundaries clear. They demonstrated increased confidence when using de-escalation strategies and showed improved teamworking to help children in moments of frustration and distress. When staff have resorted to using physical interventions, it has been necessary and proportionate.

One child still experienced some episodes of going missing from the home. However, these only lasted for short periods and the child started to remain in contact with staff, communicating with them via text and video calls. The child also asked staff to collect him. This highlights a shift in the relationship dynamics between the child and staff, indicating that he was beginning to trust them and to seek support when emotionally unsettled.

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

Interim managers have taken action to address the significant concerns found at the full inspection in April 2025. They have worked alongside staff to observe their practice, ensured that staff received appropriate training and supported staff development through supervision sessions. They have taken part in critical reflection with staff after incidents and in team meetings. However, staff still struggle to make some decisions without direct supervision from managers, and this causes some confusion in relation to boundaries.

Interim managers are approachable and have encouraged staff to speak up about their development needs. This has prompted some honest conversations about knowledge gaps. Staff still require upskilling to expand their capabilities and confidence. Interim managers are taking appropriate steps to address these, but they remain in their infancy.

Internal investigations are still ongoing, and leaders are keeping relevant professionals updated with the progress they have made. Since the monitoring inspection on 6 May 2025, Ofsted has received two whistle-blowing reports relating to the home and the wider safeguarding culture within the company. The concerns raised in these reports were considered during this inspection but there was no evidence to suggest they were valid. Shortfalls in practice were linked to individual's decision making, actions and omissions.

Interim managers and leaders are taking a realistic approach to caring for children in the future. Leaders have decided to vary the home's registration, reducing the number

of children it can accommodate. While action has been taken to reduce the likelihood of children accessing the roof, the home still needs to undergo some repairs due to property damage. As there are no children living in the home, staff have been deployed to the company's other homes. Some staff have decided to leave the company. Leaders are in the process of recruiting new staff for the home.

Leaders have recruited a new manager and responsible individual. However, they will not be joining the home for several months and will require an induction period. Interim managers also need to recruit new residential support workers. Leaders anticipate that the home will not be operational for the next five to six months, which means it is unable to care for children.

There have been positive changes since the last full inspection. However, it is unclear if these will be sustained when the home becomes operational again. Consequently, the requirements will remain in place. However, interim managers and leaders have taken sufficient action to meet the compliance notices issued under regulation 12 and regulation 13.

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 within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
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; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; 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 located so that children are effectively safeguarded. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(iv)(b)(c)) In particular, the registered person should take account of children's needs, vulnerabilities and risks at the point of referral to determine their compatibility with children already living in the home and the staff team. In addition, the registered person should ensure they develop a good understanding of sexual abuse and sexually harmful behaviours.	30 January 2026

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 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; 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; 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)(f)(h))	30 January 2026
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— strive to gain each child's respect and trust;	30 January 2026

de-escalate confrontations with or between children, or potentially violent behaviour by children. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(viii)(xi))	
The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— understand the barriers to learning that each child may face and take appropriate action to help the child to overcome any such barriers; promote opportunities for each child to learn informally; help a child who is excluded from school, or who is of compulsory school age but not attending school, to access educational and training support throughout the period of exclusion or non-attendance and to return to school as soon as possible. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(iii)(v)(viii))	30 January 2026

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: 2740402

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Compass Children's Homes Limited

Registered provider address: 3 Rayns Way, Syston, Leicester LE7 1PF

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors:

Tara Webb, Social Care Regulatory Inspector

Gary Turney, Social Care Regulatory Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

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