

2743791

Registered provider: Therapeutic Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home registered with Ofsted in October 2023 and is operated by a private organisation. It provides care for up to two children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, two children were living at the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted on 24 October 2025.

Inspection dates: 4 and 5 November 2025

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: 16 April 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/04/2024	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The inspector spoke with both children as part of the inspection.

Children have built trusting relationships with staff. Staff are responsive to children's needs and use individualised approaches and strategies to support them. Children are making progress in all areas of their lives. One parent said, 'I can't believe what staff have been able to achieve.'

The home is welcoming, and staff encourage children to decorate for seasonal events. Children's photos are displayed in communal areas, and bedrooms reflect individual choices, helping children develop a sense of belonging. Overall, the home is maintained to a high standard, and young people benefit from a clean and tidy environment in most areas. However, there is a noticeable odour of urine in the bathroom. Despite staff implementing regular cleaning routines, this has not been sufficient to maintain the bathroom to an acceptable standard.

Staff identify any barriers to children's learning and seek to help them overcome them. For one child, this includes staff providing support with reading and writing outside of school. Staff work closely with education providers and advocate strongly for children when their education needs are not being met. This proactive approach supports children's educational progress and attendance.

Children are encouraged to have high aspirations for their future. Staff celebrate children's achievements and recognise the progress they make. For one child, this has included successfully passing their driving test. For another, this has included growing their own vegetables. Children also enjoy a range of structured activities with staff. They have recently planned and enjoyed holidays abroad.

Staff regularly speak to children about making healthy choices and keeping themselves safe. However, they do not consistently discuss the potential risks and dangers associated with vaping.

Children are encouraged to see their family and other important people in their lives. One parent said staff support them in spending quality time with their child. One child has enjoyed holidays with extended family members and goes to their friends' homes for sleepovers.

Children receive emotional and practical support when preparing to move on from the home. Staff plan celebrations and opportunities to say goodbye. The in-house therapist said, 'Staff have worked beautifully with [name of child] to get them to a point of moving on.' This demonstrates that children experience positive endings and welcome new beginnings.

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

Children say they like living at the home and that they know how to make a complaint. Staff are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities and know what action to take if they have any concerns about children's safety and well-being.

Children's allegations against staff are taken seriously and acted on without delay. The management seeks the appropriate advice from the local authority designated officer and ensures that thorough investigations are carried out. Additionally, children are supported in rebuilding relationships with staff following any retracted allegations. This helps children move forward positively from the incident.

Staff notify all appropriate professionals when children go missing from the home. They attempt to contact children and encourage them to return home safely. However, staff sometimes inadequately assess the level of risk, and on two occasions they discontinued efforts to search for children.

Children benefit from therapeutic support. Staff consistently encourage children to engage with the in-house therapist. Additionally, staff provide a safe environment to explore children's feelings following these sessions. A social worker said, '[Name of child]'s emotional well-being has improved, and their ability to speak openly about their feelings.'

Staff help children stay safe online. Appropriate parental controls are implemented in line with children's needs and vulnerabilities. Staff actively speak to children about online safety and how they can keep themselves safe online.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

There has been a change of manager since the last inspection. The manager is suitably qualified, and staff report that she has 'fitted in perfectly'. She remains present in the home and has established positive relationships with the children. The manager is supported by the previous manager, who is now the responsible individual.

Children are cared for by a committed staff team. There has been minimal use of staff from other homes in the organisation, and there has been no use of agency staff. This offers children consistency and continuity of care. Staff say they love their job, and they describe the environment as 'safe', 'supportive' and 'nurturing'.

The team of staff are experienced, and they all hold relevant childcare qualifications. They have access to a wide range of training opportunities, and the manager identifies additional training based on the specific needs of the children. This ensures that staff have the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to provide good-quality care.

The management team monitors the quality of care provided effectively. Any concerns regarding staff practice are addressed promptly and appropriately. Staff are encouraged

to reflect on their practice and implement improvements where required. The management team ensures that staff are aware of the company's policies and the expectations of their role.

Staff receive regular supervision in line with the home's statement of purpose. These sessions are supportive and reflective. Additionally, monthly team meetings further support the smooth running of the home, providing clear direction for staff. These meetings also serve as a valuable forum for discussing strategies and approaches supported by the in-house therapist.

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; and take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(vi)) In particular, the registered manager must ensure that staff make continued efforts to locate children when they are missing from home.	12 December 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that children are provided with a welcoming and homely domestic environment. This specifically relates to ensuring that there are appropriate cleaning and hygiene systems in place to ensure that the bathroom is well maintained. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)
- The registered person should ensure that staff have the relevant skills and knowledge to help children understand and, if necessary, work to change negative behaviours in key areas of health and well-being. This specifically relates to vaping. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 35, paragraph 7.18)

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: 2743791

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Therapeutic Care Limited

Registered provider address: Errigal House, Avroe Crescent, Blackpool FY4 2DP

Responsible individual: Joanne Whitehead

Registered manager: Heather McAllister

Inspector

Kitty Wiper, Social Care Inspector

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