

2744902

Registered provider: Therapeutic Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is operated by a private company. It is registered to provide care for up to two children with social and emotional difficulties.

The home registered with Ofsted in October 2023. The manager registered in July 2025.

There were two children living at the home at the time of this inspection. Both children spoke with the inspector.

Inspection dates: 14 and 15 October 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: 15 May 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
15/05/2024	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children experience positive moves in and out of the home. Staff welcome children to the home sensitively. There is careful planning to support children moving out of the home. For one child, this included a visual plan outlining what the move would look like. Additionally, staff are keen to ensure that children have everything they need for their journey to independence.

The home environment is welcoming. There are photos around the home, and children have had the opportunity to personalise their bedrooms. This supports children to develop a sense of belonging.

Children say that they like the staff who care for them. They have developed good relationships with staff. One child said, 'They understand me.' This demonstrates that children are comfortable with the adults around them and can speak to them if they have any worries. A social worker said, '[Name of child] has really good relationships with staff.'

Children are making progress in respect of their education plans. Staff understand children's aspirations and put plans in place to support them to achieve these. For one child, this included identifying an appropriate educational provision. Children's attendance at educational settings is incentivised, and this is effective.

Children are supported with their emotional well-being. Staff speak to children about how they feel and explore the reasons for their feelings. However, medical advice or external support in respect of children's emotional well-being is not always sought. This means that children do not always have access to specialist support.

Children are encouraged and supported to see the people who are important to them. Staff work with children and their families to strengthen family relationships. This includes welcoming family members to the home and supporting children to purchase birthday gifts for their siblings. Additionally, children's friends are welcomed to the home where appropriate.

Children are provided the opportunity to experience a range of activities. These are in line with the children's wishes. Children have been supported to go to the gym and take part in boxing lessons. This supports children's physical and emotional well-being.

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

Children say that they feel safe living at the home. They know how to make a complaint if they need to. They do not have any concerns in respect of the care they receive. The manager ensures that she regularly reviews children's placements in line with their risks.

When safety plans are put in place, children understand why. One child stated, 'It's to keep me safe.'

When children are missing from home, staff follow children's individualised plans. However, on one occasion, staff did not undertake a welfare check for a child. The manager identified the shortfall in staff practice and addressed this in a timely manner. Additionally, the manager has taken further action to ensure that the staff team is aware of the processes to follow when a child is missing from home.

The manager ensures that there are clear risk assessments in place for staff to follow. Additionally, staff encourage children to be involved in reviewing their risk assessments. This means that children's wishes and feelings are considered in respect of how staff respond to them when they are upset.

When there are concerns about substance misuse, staff complete room searches and seek support from external agencies. However, on one occasion, staff did not seek external medical advice when children were suspected of being under the influence of substances.

Staff regularly talk to children about their known risks. This is completed in a child-focused and sensitive manner. Children are supported to complete courses in targeted topics, such as substance misuse, to support their understanding of how to keep themselves safe. This supports children to make safer choices. A social worker said, 'Staff are responsive and proactive regarding [name of child]'s care plan.'

Managers have effective oversight of incidents, and opportunities are provided to staff and children to reflect and learn from these. There has only been one incident of physical intervention. This was used appropriately to keep children safe.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Children, staff and external professionals spoke positively of the manager. The manager advocates effectively for children, ensuring that their best interests are at the forefront of decisions. One social worker said, 'She genuinely cares about [name of child]. I have never known a manager as proactive.'

Staff recognise the manager's continued efforts to improve the quality of care for children. The manager ensures that staff have access to specific training tailored to meet the needs of the children. This supports staff to respond to children's identified needs, vulnerabilities and risks.

The manager has good oversight of staff practice. She identifies shortfalls and addresses them promptly. The manager is transparent with placing authorities about any concerns that arise and keeps them updated on the actions she has taken.

There is a core team of staff who have good relationships with children. However, there have been significant changes in the staff team. A number of staff have moved to work at other homes in the organisation. These have been planned moves and well communicated to children. However, this does impact the consistency and continuity of care for children.

Staff receive regular supervision that is reflective and child focused. Staff also have continued professional development sessions with the manager. This seeks to support staff to develop their understanding of key frameworks and legislation.

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; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; and take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(v)(vi)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff follow children's individualised missing-from-home protocols.	28 November 2025
The health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met; and children receive advice, services and support in relation to their health and well-being; and In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff help each child to—	28 November 2025

understand the child's health and well-being needs and the options that are available in relation to the child's health and well-being, in a way that is appropriate to the child's age and understanding; and that each child has access to such dental, medical, nursing, psychiatric and psychological advice, treatment and other services as the child may require. (Regulation 10 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(ii)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff receive appropriate health advice for children when they are under the influence of substances. In particular, the registered person must ensure that children are referred to health professionals when there is a recognised need.	
The registered person must ensure that the employment of any person on a temporary basis at the children's home does not prevent children from receiving such continuity of care as is reasonable to meet their needs. (Regulation 31 (1)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staffing is consistent and provides continuity of care for children.	28 November 2025

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: 2744902

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Therapeutic Care Limited

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

Responsible individual: Claire Holtby

Registered manager: Sarah Goodchild

Inspector

Kitty Wiper, Social Care Inspector

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