

2745136

Registered provider: Aspris Children's Service

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a large national organisation that operates children's homes across the country. It provides care for up to six children with complex needs, which may include learning difficulties, autism and other complex associated difficulties. The home is closely linked to a local special school and operates a 38-week annual provision that aligns with academic holidays.

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

The registered manager has been in post since the home's registration on 10 November 2024. Before the home opened, the manager and many staff worked in the residential provision at the local school.

Inspection dates: 24 and 25 September 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	outstanding
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	outstanding
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding
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The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

Date of last inspection: 24 April 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/04/2024	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Children are overwhelmingly positive about living at the home, describing it as 'life-changing' and a place where they have made and continue to make remarkable progress. They commended the staff's dedication and commitment to 'each and every child'. Children identify the progress they have made while living at the home. They say they are more confident and better able to understand their emotions, and they are positive about their future. One child, who has recently left the home, described the feelings of 'warmth, peacefulness and love' when you walk through the door.

Children are cared for by a well-trained and highly stable staff team. Many team members worked at the former residential special school and so have supported some of the children prior to this home opening. This continuity contributes to the quality of relationships and the consistently high standard of care provided to the children.

A key strength of the provision is the staff's in-depth knowledge of the children they support. Their dedication is evident in the way they speak about the children with genuine affection and in how they proudly celebrate each child's achievements. Staff provide children with genuine warmth, care and nurturing support, and the children feel this. Many of the children view the staff as a second family. The voice of the child is central to the care provided. Children feel listened to and that staff welcome their views. One child said their involvement throughout the home and their care is real and not just talk.

Staff provide excellent support to prepare children for adulthood and for moving on to the next part of their journey. Staff assist children in developing important life skills and provide them with opportunities to celebrate their independence. Children who have recently left the home, and their parents, praised the staff for all their help and support.

Children create and review their own plans, alongside staff. This gives them ownership, develops their understanding of their needs, and helps them work with staff to create effective coping and management strategies for their future.

Staff work cohesively with children's education providers to ensure continuity of care for the children while also supporting their education and social and emotional development.

Professionals say that children make remarkable progress and that staff can 'do no more' and regularly go 'above and beyond'. They commend the nurturing environment and the team's unwavering commitment and dedication. Professionals highlighted that the foundation of the staff's work lies in the strong, trusting relationships they have built with the children and their families. Parents consistently praise the staff for the high-quality care provided to the children and the nurturing environment created in the home. Many also spoke of the remarkable progress their children have made, including their child achieving milestones they once believed were out of reach.

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

Behaviour management at the home is a strength. Staff promote a relationship-based approach. They skilfully support children in developing an understanding of how their actions can affect themselves and others. This approach helps children develop self-management strategies. One child said that staff do not give up trying to support them. Due to staff's skills and their knowledge of the children they care for, they can identify changes in a child's demeanour, however small, and proactively support them before incidents occur. This has led to a decrease in the number of incidents. Restraint has not been used since the previous inspection.

Children feel safe in the home. Staff identify and respond to safeguarding concerns and understand their responsibilities. The manager undertakes robust monitoring to ensure that swift action is taken to protect children. Leaders and managers use learning from incidents and events in the wider community to continue to develop staff's safeguarding practice.

Staff are not risk averse. They support children in developing an understanding of risk and how to manage it as a necessary life skill.

The recruitment of staff robustly and consistently follows safer recruitment guidance, helping to ensure that children are protected.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

Leaders and managers are highly skilled and experienced, with a clear and shared vision for the home that is embraced by the entire staff team. They and the team serve as inspirational role models for the children and each other, consistently demonstrating high aspirations for the children and working collaboratively to achieve the best possible outcomes for each child. The team are exceptional advocates for the children and their families. This is especially true of the manager, whose tenacity in advocating for the children, their parents, and the home is widely recognised. This view is supported by current and former children.

The manager has a comprehensive understanding of the home and demonstrates in-depth knowledge of the children, the progress they have made, the staff team, and the developments since the previous inspection. This insight is informed by the manager's robust monitoring of all aspects of the home. The manager uses this information in a reflective way to drive continuous improvement in practice. The manager reflects on practice, involving the wider staff team to support their professional development and to help them recognise the profound impact their care has had on the child's life and future prospects.

Leaders, managers and staff understand that their duty of care extends beyond the boundaries of the home. This is linked to their commitment to the children and their families.

Staff feel valued, listened to and appreciated by leaders, managers and their peers. A significant number of staff have worked for the organisation for many years and remain dedicated and enthusiastic about their roles. Staff feel well trained for and supported in their roles.

Staff supervision is of excellent quality, with children placed at the centre of these sessions. Supervision provides staff with opportunities to reflect on their practice and develop their skills. Supervisors also prioritise staff well-being, recognising that the team is the home's strongest asset. These sessions are used to reflect on recent training, explore what staff have learned, and discuss how they will apply this knowledge in practice.

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: 2745136

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Aspris Children's Service

Registered provider address: 2 Barton Close, Grove Park, Enderby, Leicester LE19 1SJ

Responsible individual: Michelle Garstang

Registered manager: Tracey Thatcher

Inspector

Wendy Anderson, Social Care Inspector

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