

2747053

Registered provider: Kaima Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and managed by a private company. It offers care for up to three children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

There has been no registered manager since January 2024. The director of the company was acting as the manager at the time of the inspection.

Two children have lived at the home since the last inspection. One child was living at the home at the time of this inspection.

Inspection dates: 11 and 12 June 2024

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	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 21 February 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/02/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Staff provide children with a nurturing and caring environment to live in. Staff spend quality time with children. They learn children's favourite dances, play football and do arts and crafts. This helps the children to develop close and trusting relationships with staff. One child who moved from the home still maintains contact with staff.

Children's health needs are met. Staff support children to access general and emergency health services. Staff seek specialist advice to help children with their sleep patterns, and make referrals for children to access specialist help.

Staff work with children to develop their independence skills. Children benefit from individualised care routines and share their views about their daily care. For example, staff listen to children regarding which staff they prefer to transport them to school.

Staff help children to access education. This includes transporting a child whose school is a significant distance from the home. The support offered by staff means that the child experiences less disruption and maintains established relationships with their teachers and peers. There is positive communication between school staff and the home's staff. This provides continuity of care for the child in different settings.

Children enjoy a variety of individual and group activities. Staff support children to embrace their passions. For example, they help them to join local football teams and secure football souvenirs of their favourite team. These opportunities help the children to develop their independence skills and improve their self-esteem.

Staff work with the local authority to help children to see their family and significant others. Leaders and managers supported a child to move closer to their family in line with their wishes.

Children are positively welcomed into the home. Staff support children to have a positive ending when moving from the home. Leaders and managers ensure that children's views are considered regarding their transition plans. During children's time at the home, staff capture their positive events and celebrations by taking photos. These photos help the children to have positive memories to look back on when they leave the home.

The child currently living in the home said that they can talk to staff about their worries. However, the child was not aware of the complaints policy and procedure, or how to raise a complaint if they needed to.

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

The child living in the home said that they feel safe. Staff have a clear understanding of the child's needs and associated risks. Children's risk assessment and plans are updated after significant events and provide staff with guidance about what actions to take to help children.

Staff use therapeutic care and de-escalation techniques to support children during emotionally difficult times. When incidents occur, leaders and managers ensure that they have oversight in a timely manner. Staff avoid using consequences and use positive incentives. Additionally, staff have planned conversations with children to help them to understand associated risks, such as road and internet safety, stranger awareness, and the impact of illicit substance use. This helps children to understand how to keep themselves safer.

Staff support children to understand the impact of their behaviour and this has led to a reduction in the times that children are unable to manage their emotions and behaviours. This means that staff have not had to physically hold children to keep them safe. Children do not go missing from the home. The child living in the home said to staff that they feel settled and do not feel that they need to go missing from the home. However, in the event of this happening, staff are aware of the procedures that they should follow.

Staff understand the actions to take when there are concerns regarding staff's practice. Leaders and managers have safeguarding procedures in place. They share relevant information with local authority designated officers and take timely action to address any concerns regarding this.

On one occasion, staff failed to undertake a bedroom search when this was necessary to keep the child safe. Action was taken by the acting manager to ensure that staff revisited the home's room search policy.

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

The staff are currently being managed by an acting manager and the responsible individual. The acting manager also carries out the role of a director and works as part of the care team. Leaders and managers are currently recruiting for a suitable manager; however, the absence of a full-time, experienced registered manager has hindered the effectiveness of the leadership and management of the home.

Leaders and managers have not consistently had oversight of children's progress and the development of the home. Leaders and managers are aware that the home's monitoring systems require strengthening and have introduced new audit tools. However, these are yet to be embedded into practice to ensure thorough and consistent management oversight and address the identified shortfalls.

Leaders and managers are proactive in trying to recruit staff but have not secured any. Therefore, on occasions, there has been insufficient staff available to support the children in line with their care plans. Furthermore, because no new staff are in post, it has not been possible to review if the provider's recruitment practice has been strengthened. The previous requirement has therefore been restated.

Staff access reflective supervision; however, the supervisor has not had the required training. Mandatory and bespoke training are available to staff to help them to understand the children's individual needs; however, some staff have not accessed all the required training, such as first aid and supervision.

Records are written from a child's perspective, and staff use a therapeutic approach; however, there are gaps in children's records and information has not always been updated.

Leaders and managers support staff to have regular team meetings and supervision sessions. This provides staff with the opportunity to reflect as a team and individually on the children's care and their own practice. This also allows leaders and managers to discuss staff practice and helps staff to offer children consistency of care. The acting manager has also reviewed staff development and any support that they need. Furthermore, leaders and managers ensure that there are risk assessments if friends or family work together at the home.

The acting manager understands children's plans. Professionals talk about positive communication with staff and the acting manager. Social workers said that they value the weekly updates regarding children's progress. Leaders and managers have completed a review to look at the quality of care provided and have included the views of children and others in their oversight.

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person 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 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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)) In particular, ensure that staff undertake room searches in line with children's plans and remove any items that could cause harm to the child.	9 August 2024
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;	9 August 2024

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; and 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)(c)(d)(f)(h))	
The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. The registered person may only— employ an individual to work at the children's home; if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3). The requirements are that— full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. (Regulation 32 (1) (2)(a) (3)(d)) This requirement has been restated.	9 August 2024
The registered provider must appoint a person to manage the children's home if— there is no registered manager in respect of the home. (Regulation 27 (1)(a)) This requirement has been restated.	9 August 2024

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that the children are aware of the complaints procedure. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 22, paragraph 4.13)

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: 2747053

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Kaima Care Limited

Registered provider address: 223 Middle Road, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury WF12 8BT

Responsible individual: Delores Croasdell

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Gina Lightfoot, Social Care Inspector

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