

2766766

Registered provider: Oaktree Childcare Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and managed by a private provider. It provides care for one child who may experience social and emotional difficulties, or special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

The manager registered with Ofsted in October 2024.

At the time of this inspection, one child was living at the home and spoken to by the inspector.

Inspection date: 27 November 2025

Date of last inspection: 16 April 2025

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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.'

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Risks for the child are known and understood by staff. Risk assessments are detailed, outlining all known risks for the child and include guidance for staff to follow. Practice is supported by detailed information from the child's placing authority. Staff understand thresholds for sharing information with relevant professionals and attend regular meetings with external professionals to support the child's care.

Staff respond quickly when the child goes missing from the home and they make persistent attempts to locate the child themselves. Staff talk to the child about their experiences of going missing from the home and they use this information to understand and reduce the risks that the child faces. There has been an anticipated increase in the child being missing from the home. Staff are working closely with external professionals to manage concerns. Staff advocate on the child's behalf and escalate their concerns when necessary to ensure that the child's best interests are protected.

Staff use positive strategies to manage behaviour, including rewards, de-escalation techniques and distraction methods. Consequences implemented by staff are proportionate and appropriate to the behaviour displayed. There are no incidents of the child being physically held by staff. Staff talk to the child about their behaviour in the home. However, for one complaint received from outside of the home, there is limited direct work with the child to help them develop their knowledge of appropriate behaviour in the community.

The child's views, wishes and feelings are listened to and acted on by staff. The child enjoys a range of home-based activities that reflect their interests. Staff take the child on outings and activities in the community. Staff also support the child to join clubs so that they can pursue their chosen hobbies. This provides the child with opportunities to socialise in their wider community and to broaden their experiences.

The child has positive and trusting relationships with staff. When barriers to building meaningful relationships have arisen, the registered manager considers creative strategies for staff to help them and facilitates mediation sessions to improve the child's relationships.

Complaints are acknowledged and addressed by the registered manager. Records show actions taken and provide clear rationale for decisions. However, one recent complaint included an allegation regarding staff practice that was retracted immediately by the child. Although prompt action was taken to respond to the concerns, the incident was not treated as an allegation. As a result, the incident was

not referred to the local authority designated officer and was not notified to the regulator in line with safeguarding procedures.

The child's personal spaces reflect their individuality. However, there are maintenance repairs outstanding throughout the entirety of the home.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/04/2025	Full	Good

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; help each child to understand how to keep safe; 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; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health; and that the effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii)(d)(e))	27 December 2025

Specifically, the registered person must ensure that staff support the child to understand appropriate behaviour in the community. Specifically, the registered person must ensure that safeguarding procedures are appropriately followed following any complaints. Specifically, the registered person must ensure that action is taken to address maintenance repairs required throughout the home.	
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation; an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious; there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; a child protection enquiry involving a child — is instigated; or concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))	27 December 2025

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2766766

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Oaktree Childcare Limited

Registered provider address: Ground Floor, Seneca House, Links Point, Amy Johnson Way, Blackpool, Lancashire FY4 2FF

Responsible individual: Amber Steib

Registered manager: Kirsty Hartley

Inspector

Leanne Carr, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

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

© Crown copyright 2025