

2769501

Registered provider: Therapeutic Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is operated by a private provider and offers care for up to two children who may experience social or emotional difficulties.

At the time of the inspection, one child was living at the home, and they spoke with the inspector.

The manager registered with Ofsted in April 2024.

Inspection dates: 12 and 13 August 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
---	-------------

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

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

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 1 October 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/10/2024	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The planning for children moving in and out of the home is robust. For the child currently living at the home, the manager ensured that there was a comprehensive plan in place to meet the child's needs. The child was able to visit the home before moving in and the staff visited the child. This helped the child to start building relationships with staff.

The child is settled and making progress in many aspects of their life. They continue to build positive relationships with staff, who are caring and nurturing in their approach.

Before moving into the home, the child had not attended education for some time due to their emotional well-being. The manager is working with professionals to identify an appropriate college course for the child to start in September.

Staff actively support the child in maintaining regular contact with their family. This ongoing support helps nurture the relationship between the child and their parents, ensuring that their time together remains positive and meaningful. To further promote family involvement, the manager provides weekly updates to parents, keeping them informed and engaged in their child's life.

Staff are attentive to the child's physical and emotional health needs. The child has regular sessions with the in-house therapist, and these play a key role in helping them process past trauma. This therapeutic support is contributing significantly to the child's mental health and emotional well-being.

Staff also take time to understand the child's interests and hobbies, encouraging participation in a variety of activities both within and outside the home. Recently, the child enjoyed a holiday in Spain, an experience that has positively impacted their self-esteem and confidence.

Staff support the child to develop age-appropriate life skills. This includes cooking, budgeting, and completing household tasks, and the child has access to regular driving lessons. This is developing the child's confidence and skills in preparing them to live more independently in the future.

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

The child's safety and welfare are consistently at the heart of staff practice. Staff understand the child's individual needs and vulnerabilities. Comprehensive risk assessments and safe working practices are in place, resulting in a significant reduction in risks to the child's well-being.

Staff adopt a calm and caring approach. They use proactive behaviour management strategies and build positive relationships in order to support the child in managing their anxieties and frustration. This approach has been highly effective. There have been no incidents of the child going missing from home or requiring physical intervention.

The child's views and wishes are regularly sought regarding their daily care. Staff engage in ongoing conversations with the child about safety, including personal safety, online safety, and the risks associated with substance misuse. The child has expressed that they are confident that the staff would respond if they ever had any concerns or complaints.

When an allegation is raised against a staff member, appropriate action is taken to keep the child safe. The manager has notified the local authority. However, he does not have a clear system in place so that the regulator is always notified.

Staff support the child to take age-appropriate risks as part of the child's development for independence. This has meant that the child has increased unsupervised time in the community with friends. This helps to develop the child's social skills.

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

The manager is experienced and aspirational for the child. He understands the child's needs and ensures that staff take action to meet their needs. The manager is supported by a committed team of staff who share the same aspirations for the child.

The manager has systems in place to ensure that he has oversight of daily care practices and has completed a review of the quality of care provided by the staff. However, he has not gained feedback from parents.

Staff understand the aims and objectives set out in the home's statement of purpose. However, the manager has not shared this, when updated, with the regulator.

The manager has not ensured that staff are receiving regular one-to-one supervision sessions in line with the statement of purpose. This does not provide staff with an opportunity to reflect on their practice.

Team meetings take place regularly. This provides staff with an opportunity to share information effectively. The in-house therapist attends these meetings in order to offer support and guidance to the staff in meeting the child's emotional needs. This provides consistency for the child.

There is a comprehensive training programme in place. Staff receive regular refresher training to ensure that their knowledge and skills are kept updated. The manager also ensures that staff complete specific training to meet the child's needs.

An independent person visits the home each month. The report provides scrutiny, which the manager acts on promptly. However, feedback has not been sought from parents. This is a missed opportunity for a more holistic view of the quality of care provided.

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 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)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that he has clear systems in place to ensure that significant incidents are notified to all safeguarding partners within appropriate timescales, including the regulator for full transparency.	14 October 2025
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.	14 October 2025

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 work as a team where appropriate. ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications, and skills to meet the needs of each child. ensure the homes workforce provides continuity of care to each child. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(c) (e)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff receive regular, individual practice-related supervision.	
The registered person must compile in relation to the children’s home a statement (“the statement of purpose”) which covers the matters listed in Schedule 1. The registered person must— keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16 (1) (3)(a)(b)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that when the home’s statement of purpose is updated, a copy is sent to HMCI.	14 October 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that they have a system in place which allows them to monitor the matters set out in the regulations at least every six months. This should include feedback from parents. (‘Guide to the Children’s Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,’ page 64, paragraph 15.2).
- The registered person should ensure that the independent person should offer parents the opportunity to speak to them about the quality of care provided for their child.

('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 65, paragraph 15.5).

Information about this inspection

The inspector has 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: 2769501

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Therapeutic Care Limited

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

Responsible individual: Peter Nuttall

Registered manager: Michael Birtles

Inspector

Simon Jones, 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 looked-after children, 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