

2770431

Registered provider: RBR CARE LTD

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and run by a private provider. It provides care for up to six children who may have social and emotional difficulties.

The home was registered with Ofsted in May 2024. The manager recently left their post in June 2025. There is an acting manager overseeing the home.

Two children were living at the home at the time of the inspection.

Inspection dates: 19 and 20 August 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	requires improvement to be good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	requires improvement to be good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home is not yet delivering good help and care for children and young people. However, there are no serious or widespread failures that result in their welfare not being safeguarded or promoted.

Date of last inspection: 12 February 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/02/2025	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: requires improvement to be good

Not all children have experienced a nurturing and supportive environment that meets their needs. This is because staff do not demonstrate the necessary understanding or relational skills to support all children. As a result, staff have been unable to build positive relationships with every child. Children feel unsupported and are at risk of further disengagement. Some children have struggled to make the expected progress from their starting points.

Children's bedrooms are not kept clean and tidy. The plans in place to support children to clean their bedrooms are not effective. This means children are not being equipped with the independence skills needed to maintain their environment.

Children are not making progress in education. Children have had significant periods of time without attending school. There are established lines of communication between staff and the children's schools, but this is having little impact on helping children to overcome their barriers to education. This means that they are not achieving academically, and it may impact on their future aspirations.

Staff have not ensured that all children's health needs are met. One child has not received their necessary immunisations. Staff have not escalated this concern, resulting in a delay in the child accessing essential healthcare. Staff have supported one child with their health needs, and they have made progress. The child is now able to manage their own medication as a result.

Staff actively provide a wide range of activities tailored to children's individual interests. While not all children choose to participate, staff consistently encourage engagement. This means every child has access to meaningful opportunities, including holidays and personalised experiences.

Families speak highly of the staff. One parent said that the communication with staff is 'great'. One family member said, 'I can speak to whoever is there; they are all really helpful.' The relationships that staff have developed with children's family members have in turn helped to improve the children's relationships with their families.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: requires improvement to be good

Risk assessments do not provide staff with clear strategies to reduce risk and support children. There is no management oversight of these plans. Furthermore, plans are not updated after incidents. This increases the children's level of vulnerability.

There are no effective plans or systems to safeguard children when using the internet. Leaders and staff have not identified the risks for children associated with online activity. No proactive measures have been taken to educate children about keeping themselves safe or to monitor this.

Leaders and managers recruit staff safely to work in the home. However, there is no clear process to regularly check the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks of those staff already employed. Any potential new risks posed by staff would not be monitored effectively, leaving children vulnerable.

Staff do not fully demonstrate an understanding of risk. Concerns are not recognised or communicated effectively in the team or with relevant professionals. This lack of professional curiosity and clarity about roles and responsibilities increases the risk of harm to children, because concerns are not escalated appropriately. As a result, safeguarding practice is inconsistent, and children may be exposed to avoidable risk.

Children are helped to raise concerns when they are worried about staff practice. However, leaders and managers do not ensure that allegation management procedures are followed in line with statutory guidance and internal protocols, delaying children getting the support that they need.

One child has developed safer behaviours when away from the home, leading to safeguarding restrictions being lifted. This is positive progress for this child.

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

Concerns were raised about leadership and management practices prior to the manager leaving the home. The acting manager has been in post only for a short period of time and has yet to fully take on their delegated roles and responsibilities. Since the registered manager left, there has been minimal oversight of the home by leaders and managers. This has left staff unsupported and lacking guidance in their roles, leading to poor decision-making.

There have been significant periods of time where staff have not received practice-related supervision. This limits the opportunity for staff to reflect, develop and learn. Furthermore, there is a lack of focus on staff well-being, meaning staff are not fully supported in their roles.

Leaders and managers do not take sufficient action to escalate concerns when children do not have the help they need. One child was left without an education placement for a significant period. When investigations involving the police occur, leaders and managers do not advocate for children effectively. Delays in ongoing investigations are not challenged. This has meant that they have been ongoing for long periods and that children do not get closure.

Leaders and managers have not completed the quality of care review. As a result, Ofsted has not been kept informed about the provider's evaluation of the home's effectiveness

over time or how improvements will be made. Additionally, external scrutiny of the home is poor. The independent visitor's reports do not identify or challenge poor practice effectively. As a result, issues in the home are not sufficiently scrutinised or escalated. This further demonstrates poor monitoring and oversight of the home.

Staff training is aligned to the children's needs and improves staff knowledge and skills. However, gaps in leadership have not helped staff's practice flourish. Support and guidance for staff have not developed staff's skills to address or manage unwanted behaviour effectively. Staff are hopeful about what the new management arrangements will bring.

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 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; 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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(vi)(vii))	1 October 2025
The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— promote opportunities for each child to learn informally. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(v))	1 October 2025
The registered person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children ("a quality of care review") at least once every 6 months.	1 October 2025

In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating— the quality of care provided for children; the feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided for children. After completing a quality of care review, the registered person must produce a written report about the quality of care review and the actions which the registered person intends to take as a result of the quality of care review ("the quality of care review report"). The registered person must— supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality of care review is completed; and make a copy of the quality of care review report available on request to a placing authority, if the placing authority is not the parent of a child accommodated in the home. The system referred to in paragraph (2) must provide for ascertaining and considering the opinions of children, their parents, placing authorities and staff. (Regulation 45 (1) (2)(a)(b)(c) (3) (4)(a)(b) (5))	
The registered person must ensure that all employees— receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience; and have their performance and fitness to perform their roles appraised at least once every year. (Regulation 33 (4) (b)(c))	1 October 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the home is a welcoming, homely and domestic environment that meets the needs of children. In particular, there should be a system to manage the upkeep and cleanliness of the children's bedrooms. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)
- The registered person should ensure that the independent person makes a rigorous and impartial assessment of the home's arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children in the home's care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.5)
- The registered person should ensure that staff have the capacity and competence to build constructive, warm relationships with children that actively promote positive behaviour and provide the foundations for managing any negative behaviour. Staff should have the skills to respond to each child's individual behaviour. Where necessary, they should manage conflict, maintain constructive dialogue and react appropriately if challenged by a child in their care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 39, paragraph 8.14)
- The registered person should ensure that they maintain good employment practice. In particular, they should have a system to ensure they have oversight of all employed staff's Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.1)

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: 2770431

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: RBR CARE LTD

Registered provider address: 92-98 Queen Street, Sheffield S1 2DW

Responsible individual: Keith Riley

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Gary Smithson, Social Care Inspector

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