

2775218

Registered provider: Formations Care Services 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 provider. It provides care for up to two children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in April 2024, when the home was registered. The manager is also registered for another setting with the same provider.

At the time of this inspection, two children were living in this home. They were spoken to as part of the inspection.

Inspection dates: 29 and 30 July 2025

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

Date of last inspection: 13 August 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
13/08/2024	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

One child has moved into the home and one child has moved out since the last inspection. The manager planned the child's admission to the home well. They held meetings with the child's placing authority and previous carers. Staff welcomed the child on a visit to the home and visited the child in their previous home. Staff helped the child to feel welcome and settle into the home. This helped the child to move into the home in a positive way.

Staff help children to make progress. Most children attend school and engage well with this. This has resulted in improved attainment and friendships. Children are in good general health, and staff offer children emotional support when they are experiencing difficulties. Staff supported a child very well throughout a life changing event.

Staff provide children with a sense of belonging within the home. Staff and leaders promote children's voices and empower them to make choices in their lives. Staff know the children well and understand how to meet their needs. Staff celebrate children's achievements and offer lots of praise.

Staff promote a 'family feel' for children in the home. Leaders maintain the physical environment and decorate it to a high standard. Staff encourage children to relax and enjoy themselves. They have access to books, games and activities.

Staff avoid the use of consequences for negative behaviour. When used, staff have not recorded these to enable effective oversight by the manager to ensure that these are appropriate.

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

Children say that they feel safe within the home, and they show this through their behaviour. Staff understand the risks posed for each child. There are clear plans in place to manage these. These include an understanding of the risks posed by mobile phone or internet use.

Staff have worked to reduce risk to children over time and develop positive relationships with children based on mutual respect and trust. There have been fewer incidents of challenging behaviour, and staff do not need to physically hold children to manage their behaviour.

Staff know how to respond to children who go missing from the home. There have been very few incidents of this happening. Staff keep in regular contact with children when they are out of the home, they complete local searches, and they work with parents and professionals to locate children.

On one occasion, staff named in an allegation from a child then spoke to the child about this. This did not result in any harm to the child. However, this involved a conflict of interest which could have had more serious consequences.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Children enjoy a stable and experienced management team. The manager and responsible individual have good oversight of practice within the home. A capable deputy manager supports them. Leaders and managers have met the previous requirement and recommendations raised at the last inspection relating to children's safety.

Children experience consistency from a staff team that is stable and motivated. Staff said that they are supported well and have access to a comprehensive range of training. Leaders tailor the training to children's needs. Furthermore, leaders draw from feedback from a range of sources to oversee the quality of care for children.

Leaders hold staff to account for their practice through probationary reviews and appraisals. Leaders ensure that supervision of staff is holistic and reflective. Leaders are aware of the learning needs of individual staff members. Team meetings help staff to reflect on and develop their practice with children.

Leaders devise plans for children that focus on their individual needs. Staff keep records about children that are well written and capture children's voices and their lived experiences.

Leaders have not offered enough challenge to external professionals when they have concerns. Leaders have not made use of escalation procedures to ensure that they address this. This has resulted in drift and delay in care planning for two children. This has had a direct impact on their respective experiences of moving in and out of the home.

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
In meeting the quality standards, the registered person must, and must ensure that staff— if the registered person considers, or staff consider, a placing authority's or a relevant person's performance or response to be inadequate in relation to their role, challenge the placing authority or the relevant person to seek to ensure that each child's needs are met in accordance with the child's relevant plans. Regulation 5(c)	30 October 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that all incidents of control, discipline and restraint are subject to systems of regular scrutiny to ensure that their use is fair and the principles as set out in paragraph 9.35 are respected. This includes ensuring that staff record the use of any consequences or sanctions. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 46, paragraphs 9.35 and 9.36)
- The registered person should ensure that all staff understand and adhere to the policy on protecting children from abuse and neglect. This includes handling allegations involving staff in the home. In particular, the registered person should ensure that all staff declare and avoid any actual or perceived conflicts of interest during the investigation of an allegation. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 44, paragraphs 9.19 and 9.21)

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: 2775218

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Formations Care Services Limited

Registered provider address: Formations Care Services, 2 St. Pauls Road, Shipley
BD18 3EP

Responsible individual: Zoe Duffy

Registered manager: Victoria Crabtree-Phillips

Inspector

Sam Saxby-Brown, Social Care Regulatory Inspector

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