

2778325

Registered provider: Elevated Futures Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A private organisation operates this cluster of 3 homes. Ofsted registered the homes in April 2024 under a multi-build registration. The current manager has applied to register with Ofsted.

The 3 settings provide care for up to 6 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

There were 5 children living across the home's at the time of this inspection and 4 children were spoken with.

Inspection dates: 3 and 4 March 2026

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: 12 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/11/2024	Full	Good
09/10/2024	Monitoring Visit	
20/08/2024	Full	Inadequate

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children make different levels of progress in the home. One child has been supported by staff to develop basic life skills, and to build foundational reading and writing skills. Another child has struggled to make progress, which has at times resulted in them having negative experiences. However, staff demonstrate a strong understanding of this child's needs and work in an empathetic and strengths-based way. As a result, the child is now beginning to engage with educational activities and recognise their own capabilities.

Children have positive relationships with staff, who they enjoy spending time with. Staff speak positively about the children and offer encouraging affirmations, including through creative methods such as songs and written messages. This reflects the staff's genuine care and commitment to the children and their determination to support them to reach their potential.

When children move into the home, this is well planned and sensitively managed. Staff meet with children prior to moving in, helping them to become more familiar with the environment and reducing anxiety. On arrival, children are supported to understand the home's routines and expectations. Children's wishes and feelings are actively sought and considered by staff.

Staff and managers carefully plan for children when they are ready to move on from the home. One child returned to live with his family, in part due to the positive work carried out by staff. The child's move was well planned and progressed at a pace that reflected his wishes and needs.

The home provides a largely welcoming environment for children. Soft furnishings, decorations and photos help create a homely atmosphere. However, some areas of the environment need attention to ensure the upkeep of the home. Leaders and managers recognise where improvement is needed and have started the process to address this.

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

When children go missing from the home, staff respond promptly and in line with procedures. Staff make proactive efforts to search for children and maintain contact with them. When children return, staff prioritise their safety and wellbeing. Staff work effectively with partner agencies, ensuring that information is shared and risks are understood.

On occasions, staff need to hold children to keep them and others safe. These interventions are proportionate and used only when other de-escalation strategies have not been successful. Conversations with the child and staff help support reflection and

learning. Leaders and managers provide appropriate oversight, ensuring that all holds are necessary and in line with policy.

Children's risk assessments and care plans are detailed and individualised. They provide clear guidance that enables staff to meet children's needs and keep them safe. Plans are updated regularly, ensuring staff have current information about each child's risks and support needs.

When allegations are made about staff, senior leaders act swiftly to safeguard children and address concerns. Allegations are investigated thoroughly and in line with the provider's policies. Appropriate action is taken following these investigations to ensure that only safe and suitable adults work in the home. Leaders are reflective and use learning from these incidents to strengthen practice.

Some children are vulnerable to substance misuse, which has at times resulted in physical and emotional harm. Staff provide appropriate emotional and practical support and seek guidance from specialist agencies. This helps them to respond effectively and meet children's individual needs.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

There has been a change in management during this inspection period, which has been handled well and with minimal impact on the home. Staff report feeling well supported and describe the new manager as approachable, with an open-door culture. One staff member commented that they 'love working at the home' and that 'it doesn't feel like coming to work'.

The manager leads a child-centred culture in the home and has a strong, visible presence. They know the children well and have a clear understanding of their individual needs. The manager communicates effectively with children, ensuring that their views are heard.

There has been a high turnover of staff during this inspection period, resulting in a shortage of qualified staff. The manager has recognised this and implemented a plan to ensure that staff have protected time to complete their diploma qualifications. Despite these changes, the home benefits from a core group of experienced staff who provide children with consistency.

The manager has a clear understanding of the areas for development in the home and has started to make progress against identified goals. Staff report that the running of the home and children's experiences have improved. Staff feel well supported by the management team and receive regular, reflective supervision sessions that helps staff to develop their practice.

Safeguarding practice in the home is effective. However, the regulator is not always notified of serious incidents in a timely manner. This limits effective oversight from the regulator.

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure any damage in the home is swiftly repaired and that maintenance work is completed to ensure a domestic and homely environment for children. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)
- The registered person should have a system in place so that all serious events are notified promptly to the appropriate people. The system should cover the action that should be followed if the event arises at the weekend or on a public holiday. Notification must include details of the action taken by the home's staff in response to the event. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 63, paragraph 14.13)

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: 2778325

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Elevated Futures Ltd

Registered provider address: Office 1a, Thursby House, Thursby Road,
Bromborough, Wirral, Merseyside CH62 3PW

Responsible individual: Nichola Croft

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Kerry Chater, Social Care Inspector (lead)
Ladean Wilson, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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