

2787178

Registered provider: Great Minds Together Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is run by a private organisation. It provides care for one child who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of the inspection, one child was living at the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in February 2025.

Inspection date: 19 March 2025

Date of last inspection: 5 November 2024

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be 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 has 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.

Since the last inspection, there has been a change to the management of the home. A new manager has been appointed and registered. He has taken action to address the shortfalls that were identified from the last inspection. This is having a positive impact on the child living at the home.

The child's safety and welfare are consistently at the centre of staff's practice. Due to the complex needs of the child, a deprivation of liberty order is in place. This is constantly under review depending on the child's needs at the time. Staff have a good understanding of the child's needs and vulnerabilities and take appropriate action to support them. Staff are supported to manage the child's risks by following clear and detailed risk assessments, which are regularly reviewed.

There is now a stable staff team in place, who know the child well. This is providing stability and consistency for the child. As a result, the child is building positive relationships with staff. The child said, 'I love my staff, they are amazing people.' The child's wishes and feelings are gathered regularly and are acted on, which promotes a sense of security and belonging.

There are good arrangements in place to meet the child's complex emotional and mental health needs. The manager works with a team of health professionals who are involved in the child's care and contribute to the care plan. The manager has implemented a system to have better oversight of the administration of medication. However, this is not yet fully embedded into practice, as two errors in the recording had not been identified by the manager.

Repairs and maintenance to the home are ongoing. There continues to be significant levels of damage inside the home, which mean that it does not feel homely.

The child said that they feel safe in the home. They know how to make a complaint and can identify a trusted adult if they have any concerns or worries. The child said, 'The best thing about living at the home is the staff, they are good listeners and I feel safe.' There has been one complaint and this has been appropriately managed.

Physical interventions have only been used when necessary to prevent the child from causing harm to themselves or others. There is clear management oversight of each incident record. The manager works alongside the clinical team. Together, they use a monthly audit tool to look for patterns and triggers and develop strategies to help the child manage their emotions in a safer way.

The manager is child centred, caring, supportive and has a good understanding of the child's complex needs. The manager has good systems in place to ensure that

he has good oversight of the day-to-day care provided to the child. He has now ensured that all the appropriate plans are in place. However, the manager has not ensured that the home's statement of purpose is updated and accurately reflects the current staff working at the home, their experience and qualifications.

The manager has now ensured that all staff have completed appropriate training so they can support the child, especially around the removal of ligatures. This ensures that staff have the skills and knowledge to support the child and keep them safe. Staff are also now receiving regular, appropriate supervision sessions. This gives them an opportunity to reflect on their practice.

External monitoring of the home has now improved. A new independent person has been appointed. They are now evaluating each month how the staff are safeguarding the child and promoting their welfare.

Since the last inspection, the manager has worked hard to address the requirements and recommendations made. Five have been met and two have been restated.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
05/11/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good

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 quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; and use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(i)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that any damage to the home environment is repaired without delay. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	20 May 2025
The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. In particular the registered person must ensure that— a record is kept of the administration of medicine to each child. (Regulation 23 (1) (2)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that any errors in the medication records are identified and addressed as part of the management audits.	20 May 2025

This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
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 provide a copy of the statement of purpose to HMCI. 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) (2) (3)(a)(b)) In particular, the registered provider must ensure that the home's statement of purpose is updated and a copy sent to HMCI.	20 May 2025

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2787178

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Great Minds Together Limited

Registered provider address: 103 Milford Drive, Manchester M19 2RY

Responsible individual: Nicholas Barber

Registered manager: Andrew Speakman

Inspector

Simon Jones, Social Care Inspector

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