

2787284

Registered provider: Vita Spirit Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home owned by a small private company and provides care for up to 2 children with learning disabilities.

The manager is not yet registered with Ofsted but has submitted an application for their registration.

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

Inspection dates: 17 and 18 February 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: 10 December 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/12/2024	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The home is highly personalised to the child. The child enjoys visiting aquariums and this is reflected throughout the home. The child's bedroom is personalised, with lights that create an underwater atmosphere. There is a sensory room that provides opportunities for relaxation and exploration. The child's toys and sensory activities, including water play and sand tray, are visible throughout the home and easily accessible for the child. This reinforces the child's sense of belonging and permanence, enabling them to feel settled, secure and valued.

The child benefits from a consistent, skilled staff team who place the child's needs at the centre of practice. Staff have developed a thorough understanding of the child's nonverbal communication, and they have introduced creative, innovative approaches to support communication, which has helped the child feel increasingly understood. As a result, the child is independently making choices about their preferences, including food items.

The child attends school regularly. A member of staff is undertaking additional training alongside education professionals to strengthen and inform a consistent plan for home and in school. Research-informed approaches, such as music therapy and sensory touch, are used at home and in school. This collaborative approach is having a positive impact on the child.

The child is supported to spend time with individuals who are important to them. Staff use clear visual aids to help reduce the child's anxiety around family time and make the routine more predictable. This consistent approach has strengthened the child's sense of security and enabled them to take part in family visits with increased confidence. A parent said: 'They are amazing, I view them as family, we all work together and [Name of child] is treated like they are their own child.'

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

The child's safety and wellbeing are prioritised by staff. When risks have arisen, staff have used appropriate holds, ensuring the child understands what is happening by using their preferred method of communication. As a result of consistent practice and clear de-escalation strategies, incidents have reduced significantly.

The child has well-structured plans that outline the support required when they experience heightened emotions. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities and regularly review these plans to reflect what is effective in practice. This consistent approach has enabled the child to develop improved emotional regulation.

There have been no safeguarding concerns or allegations. However, staff are suitably trained in safeguarding subjects to provide them with the skills to identify any concerns

and to respond suitably. Safeguarding scenarios are discussed in team meetings and staff can explain the correct process they would follow should a concern arise.

Leaders and managers ensure that recruitment processes are thorough. All relevant checks are undertaken to ensure that staff are safe and suitable before being offered employment.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Since the last inspection, the previous manager has left, and a new manager has been appointed. Leaders ensured that the transition was well managed and the new manager had time to build relationships with the child and staff at a pace that did not disrupt daily routines. During this period, key managerial tasks were overseen by the responsible individual, enabling the new manager to focus on getting to know all aspects of the home. This ensured consistency for the child.

The new manager has reviewed all incidents since the last full inspection to identify any patterns. This has informed the home's development plan and ensures that practice continues to evolve in response to the child's changing needs.

Leaders and managers have high expectations of staff. Staff are guided to consider what children are expressing through their behaviours and to respond in ways that support emotional growth and create positive, meaningful experiences.

Leaders have established clear development pathways that enable staff to progress into management roles or develop specialist skills. Ongoing training is embedded in practice, ensuring that staff continually build their knowledge and confidence. The team is developing specialist areas of practice, with staff undertaking training in approaches such as Makaton and sensory massage to enhance the support available to children.

Team meetings are used as an opportunity to discuss the child's progress and any recommendations from independent visitor reports. This allows staff to revise, review and evaluate their work so that good practice thrives.

The staff team is highly skilled, committed and attuned to the child's needs. Staff demonstrate strong practice, applying their training confidently and working consistently to provide a safe, nurturing and engaging environment. Staff know the child well and use this knowledge to offer sensitive, individualised support that promotes positive experiences and progress. Their calm, thoughtful and coordinated approach reflects a team that takes pride in its work and is dedicated to achieving the best possible outcomes for the child.

Staff report that they are supported and understood and have opportunities to consider their progress through regular meaningful supervision, appraisals and probation reviews.

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: 2787284

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Vita Spirit Limited

Registered provider address: 28 Rodney Street, Liverpool, Merseyside L1 2TQ

Responsible individual: Paul Boulton

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Nicola Forrester, Social Care Inspector

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