

2787362

Registered provider: Achieve Your Aspirations Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a private provider to provide care for up to two children who may have social or emotional difficulties.

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

The manager registered with Ofsted in November 2024.

Inspection dates: 22 and 23 April 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: not previously inspected

Overall judgement at last inspection: not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the home opened, one child has moved out and two children have moved in. A child moved out after being in the home for a short period. The manager learned from this and carefully supported siblings to move into the home in a planned way.

The children attend education full time, and their attendance is excellent. Staff advocated for the children to return to their previous schools. They work collaboratively with professionals to ensure that children are well supported. Children are encouraged to complete their homework. Both children are doing well in school and meeting expectations.

Children are in good health. Staff encourage children to maintain good personal and dental hygiene. When children have additional health needs, staff speak with other professionals, including child and adolescent mental health services. Staff follow the guidance provided by health professionals to ensure that children's health needs are well met.

Children are supported to share their views, wishes and feelings. They can talk to the staff about the care that they receive. However, when children discuss their opinions about the care that they receive, the decision-making is not always shared clearly with them.

Children are encouraged to develop hobbies and interests. Staff spend time with children to discover their interests and research the local area. Children experience day trips to theme parks, community activities and holidays. One child goes horse riding and staff support them to visit the stables to help them learn about caring for horses.

Staff support children to maintain relationships with their families and people who are important to them. Staff promote children's understanding of their identities. Staff also encourage children to spend time with their siblings in a safe environment.

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

Staff know the children well and understand their risks and vulnerabilities. The manager and staff regularly review and update the children's risk assessments.

Staff educate children about internet safety and monitor their use of social media. The manager and staff implement parental controls on children's technical devices to prevent them from accessing inappropriate material. Children are helped to understand the reasons for internet restrictions.

Positive recognition and praise outweigh negative consequences. Staff support children to reflect on their behaviour and the choices they make. This approach is restorative and helps the children to take responsibility for their actions.

Incidents involving children being physically held are rare. When children are held for their safety, staff manage them by using strategies requiring minimal physical intervention. However, when the manager is involved in the incident, records are not always reviewed by a senior manager who is independent of the incident.

Children understand how to make a complaint. The manager ensures that complaints and allegations are accurately recorded. Staff and children are spoken to. Appropriate action is taken to ensure that children are safe. However, referrals to the local authority designated officer are not made promptly and not always following the protocol in place. The responsible individual has identified this as a shortfall and an action plan has been developed to improve future practice.

A robust process is in place to ensure that the people working with children are checked and vetted before working in the home. New staff benefit from a structured induction and ongoing training related to their role. This safer recruitment process means that those employed are considered suitable to work with children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is managed efficiently by a suitably qualified and experienced manager. The manager and staff have high aspirations for children and promote opportunities for them to reach their full potential. The staff say that they feel well supported by the manager.

The manager ensures that staff complete a training programme. Staff are encouraged to continue their professional development, and learning opportunities are promoted. An in-house therapist supports staff consultations. External professionals have attended team meetings to enhance staff's understanding of child protection.

Staff benefit from regular supervision sessions, which they say they find helpful. Supervision sessions are reflective and explore the development of staff practice and any necessary improvements.

When incidents occur in the home, they are accurately recorded. Children and staff are offered opportunities to reflect on incidents. However, the manager does not always record an evaluative reflection of incidents. Records do not always clearly state what actions have been taken to prevent future incidents from happening.

The manager has systems in place to monitor the care being provided. An independent person visits the home monthly. The manager uses their feedback to improve practice. The manager and staff work well with other professionals. A social worker said, 'The staff communicate well, and the team are great.'

There is a permanent, full staff team. The manager does not use agency staff. If there are gaps in the staff rota, permanent or bank staff, who know the children well, cover them.

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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 (1) 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; help each child to understand how to keep safe; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; and take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(v)(vi)) The registered person must ensure that oversight of incidents recognises any gaps in practice and that they are clear about what actions staff need to take to manage risks. The registered person must ensure that the details of restraints are recorded, including the type of hold, reason for the restraint and duration of the hold, and that these are reviewed by a manager who is independent of the incident. The registered person should ensure that they follow the agreed procedures for reporting allegations promptly to the local authority designated officer and any actions are clearly recorded.	9 June 2025

The children's views, wishes and feelings standard is that children receive care from staff who— take their views, wishes and feelings into account in relation to matters affecting the children's care and welfare and their lives. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— help each child to understand how the child's views, wishes and feelings have been taken into account and give the child reasons for decisions in relation to the child. (Regulation 7 (1)(c) (2)(iii)) Specifically, the registered person must feedback to the child to help them understand why decisions have been made.	9 June 2025
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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: 2787362

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Achieve Your Aspirations Limited

Registered provider address: 300 St. Marys Road, Garston, Liverpool L19 0NQ

Responsible individual: Maxine Parry

Registered manager: Michael Southern

Inspector

Sarah Probert, Social Care Inspector

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