

2790874

Registered provider: Parallel Parents Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and managed by a private company. It provides care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

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

The registered manager post is vacant.

Inspection dates: 5 and 6 August 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: 4 February 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/02/2025	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Following the departure of three children, the remaining child reported feeling safe and well supported by staff, having developed trusting relationships during a challenging period.

Children have described their experience in the home as positive and exceeding expectations. This is attributed to staff's efforts in building strong relationships with children, professionals and children's families.

Children are consistently supported to spend time with their family and friends and to engage in activities of their choosing. Flexible planning allows for personalised experiences and contributes to children's progress.

Staff work closely with professionals to address children's health, education and social needs. Despite occasional reluctance from children, staff remain committed, resulting in gradual progress.

Children understand how to raise concerns. Complaints and allegations are handled professionally and in line with procedures, ensuring that children feel heard and valued.

Children attend school regularly, with positive attendance records. Staff support children to remain in their existing schools to aid friendships and stability. This means that children have continued learning and feel valued.

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

Staff demonstrate a strong awareness of children's individual risks. Where admission documentation has lacked key information relating to presenting risks for a child, staff have adapted effectively to ensure children are safe.

Children report feeling safe. Staff respond appropriately to safeguarding concerns, showing competence in managing risk. One child said, 'I feel safe, and staff do everything possible to support me during challenging times.'

Incidents involving children going missing from care, bullying and community-based risks are well managed. Physical intervention is used proportionately and only when necessary to protect others.

Staff maintain consistent boundaries and routines, encouraging children's input and promoting their choice in daily activities.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home has experienced staff changes, and the registered manager has recently resigned. Despite this, a temporary manager from a sister home has remained child focused with oversight across the service. There are plans for a new manager to take over the home in the coming month on a permanent basis. Despite their decision to leave, the manager and deputy have continued to support staff and children, demonstrating a strong commitment to children's welfare.

In the manager's absence, the deputy manager has shown clear understanding of staff capabilities and children's progress, including how barriers are addressed. Staff receive appraisals that reflect their growth, identify development needs and are rewarded consistent performance, with progression into senior roles.

Staff receive supervision; however, the quality of these can vary. Leaders should ensure that staff are given the opportunity to regularly reflect on their practice and relationships with the children.

The manager and deputy have effectively challenged external agencies when decisions have not met children's needs. They advocate for key documentation for children, highlighting the importance of timely information in care planning.

Staff have actively addressed racism among children and supported cultural identity, promoting tolerance and respect for diversity.

While supervisions are timely, their structure varies. Clearer reflection, child progress tracking and measurable targets with timescales would enhance the effectiveness of supervisions.

Staffing changes have created gaps in permanent roles. Recruitment is essential, as instability has caused anxiety for at least one child, who expressed concern about disrupted relationships and the potential desire to move homes.

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 leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(c)(h)) In particular, the registered person must always ensure that the home's staffing levels are consistent with the identified staffing levels set out in the home's statement of purpose.	30 September 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should have systems in place to ensure that when staff receive supervision, it is reflective and structured. Staff should be given the opportunity to regularly reflect on their practice and the needs of the children assigned to their care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.2)

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: 2790874

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Parallel Parents Ltd

Registered provider address: 2nd Floor Lansdowne House, 85 Buxton Road Heavily, Buxton Road, Stockport SK2 6LR

Responsible individual: Sinead Lewis

Registered manager: Danielle Leacock

Inspector

Paul McKay-Smith, Social Care Inspector

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