

2792613

Registered provider: Kathrey Homes Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private organisation. Staff provide care for up to one child with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

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

The manager has been in post since May 2025, and she is in the process of applying for registration.

Inspection date: 7 November 2025

Date of last inspection: 1 April 2025

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 regarding the care or protection of children during this assurance inspection.

Relationships between staff and children are warm and trusting. Staff demonstrate a clear understanding of how to meet the individual needs of the child living in the home. The child appears comfortable and regularly engages in activities with staff, both within the home and in the community. These include karaoke sessions and community-based activities. As a result, the child experiences a sense of belonging.

Since the previous inspection in April 2025, there has been an improvement in how children move into and out of the home. Leaders consult with a range of professionals when planning for children's admission. Children are supported through pre-admission visits, which help them to build familiarity with the environment and relationships with staff. When children move on from the home, leaders share any concerns with relevant professionals, enabling timely responses. Leaders also encourage staff to provide positive endings for children through planned activities, helping children to feel valued.

There are clear arrangements for the management of the home. A new manager has been in post since May 2025 and is in the process of applying for registration. The manager has good oversight of the home and is supported by an experienced responsible individual, who also maintains oversight. Leaders complete regular monitoring audits, which contribute to the delivery of effective care by staff.

Records of staff working each day are now clear. Leaders have ensured that the home's rota includes staff members' full names, roles and shift times. The manager also records agency staff details, providing clarity about who is on duty.

Staff respond well to incidents in the home. They have a good understanding of children's plans and use them effectively. Leaders and staff notify relevant professionals following incidents. The manager and responsible individual maintain good oversight of incidents as they occur, which provides assurance that staff have responded appropriately.

The home environment is child focused. Staff have supported the child to display pictures of their relatives in the lounge area. Children are encouraged to decorate their bedrooms according to their personal preferences. This helps children to feel that the home is their own.

Staff are mostly recruited safely. While improvements have been made, one permanent staff member's employment history contained gaps, and it was unclear how leaders assured themselves that all checks were complete.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/04/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good

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

Recommendation

- The registered person should maintain good employment practice. They must ensure that the recruitment of staff safeguards children and minimises potential risks to them. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.1)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2792613

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Kathrey Homes Limited

Registered provider address: 181-183, Summer Road, Erdington, Birmingham
B23 6DX

Responsible individual: Thomas Williams

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Chanel Bryant, Social Care Inspector

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