

2802199

Registered provider: Gratia Cura Residential Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home provides care for up to three children who experience social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the inspection, one child was living at the home.

The home and the manager have been registered with Ofsted since March 2025.

Inspection dates: 15 and 16 October 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
---	-------------

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

The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
---	------

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: not applicable

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the home opened, one child, who previously lived in one of the organisation's other homes, has moved in. The child's move was thoughtfully planned to cause minimal disruption for them. The child had familiar staff caring for them at the new home, and they were slowly introduced to the local area and then to the home.

Staff have worked collaboratively to create a nurturing environment that promotes the child's emotional well-being and sense of safety.

The child is not currently attending an education placement, but managers have worked closely with the child's placing authority to arrange for them to receive bespoke education at the home. During free time, staff arrange structured activities that are supporting the child to be ready for reintegration into a school setting.

When the child first arrived, they struggled to leave the house. However, with careful planning and sensitive risk management, the child is starting to feel confident about going out into the community. Staff complete social stories to support the child to understand and be prepared before going out. These strategies are helping to improve the child's resilience, and the child is now being introduced to a local club so that they can spend time with other children.

The child's health needs are supported by staff through careful planning and strong communication with external health professionals. Staff prioritise the child's voice and well-being, and this has helped to foster a sense of empowerment and trust with the child.

The home's statement of purpose and conditions of registration do not describe a setting that is appropriate for the specific needs of the child. Nonetheless, the child's needs are being met well. Managers are aware of the need to amend the statement of purpose and apply for a variation of their conditions.

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

Staff have established a comprehensive risk assessment and behaviour management plan that are suitable for the child's specific needs. The plans outline adaptive strategies tailored to specific situations. This proactive approach has safeguarded the child and helped staff to competently and confidently care for the child.

Staff ensure that the child stays safe online. There are strict filters on social media sites and staff monitor the child's access to the internet. This approach ensures the child's safety and supports their overall well-being by minimising exposure to inappropriate and harmful content.

Physical restraint is used as a last resort to protect the child and staff from coming to harm. The frequency of incidents is steadily reducing. Following incidents, staff engage in structured debriefs to reflect on their practice and identify areas for improvement. These sessions have led to valuable learning, such as recognising the need for additional reassurance and guidance around the use of physical restraint. Such matters are regularly discussed with the team psychologist and during team meetings, reinforcing a culture of continuous learning.

There are emerging concerns regarding the child's self-harming behaviours, but staff do not keep consistently clear records of this. As a result, there is a missed opportunity to develop targeted support strategies alongside other key professionals.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager has worked proactively and consistently to monitor the quality of care provided to the child. Plans and risk management are reviewed regularly to identify any emerging concerns and provide guidance to staff.

Effective management oversight has enabled the manager to establish patterns, triggers and subtle behavioural changes in the child. This has supported the team to develop timely interventions and tailored support contributing to helping the child to feel a sense of safety and emotional stability.

Staff have demonstrated a commitment to reflective practice and professional development by undertaking relevant training to better understand the child's individual needs. Staff have considered a supportive way to record key-work sessions that links to the child's goals in the care plan. This ensures that staff and managers can monitor the child's progress.

Staff benefit from regular reflective supervision sessions. These provides a structured space to explore staff's understanding of risk, to review their practice and ensure that care is delivered consistently and safely. This reflective approach contributes to a confident, well-informed team that is responsive to the child's individual needs.

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 care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that children are admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home's statement of purpose. (Regulation 14 (1)(a) (2)(b))	17 November 2025

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff skills for safeguarding include being able to identify signs that children may be at risk, and support children in strategies to manage and reduce any risks. In particular, when the child self-harms, staff should make a clear record of this and develop targeted support strategies. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 43, paragraph 9.10)

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: 2802199

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Gratia Cura Residential Ltd

Registered provider address: 6 Park Road, Didcot, OX11 8QW

Responsible individual: Timothy Kosmala

Registered manager: Sadie Dangerfield

Inspector

Shaheda Dhandia, social care inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2025