

2802513

Registered provider: Care Hubz Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately operated and provides care for up to 2 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties. They may also have learning disabilities.

At the time of the inspection, 2 children were living at the home, and both were spoken with.

An interim manager, who has applied to register with Ofsted, is in post.

Inspection dates: 6 and 7 January 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: 11 March 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/03/2025	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children are making good progress in the home, supported by the clear structure, boundaries and routines established by staff in response to each child's individual needs. The consistent approach taken by the staff team enables children to feel safe, well cared for and comfortable in their environment. This supports children to move beyond their comfort zones and make progress across all areas of their lives. Both children are settled and happy in the home, and positive about their futures.

Staff have supported significant progress for one child through a creative, thoughtful and therapeutic approach. This has been embedded with effective input from the in-house therapist. Staff make good use of social stories that are appropriately matched to the child's level of understanding. This has led to measurable improvements in personal hygiene and engagement with daily routines, particularly at bedtime. The child has also developed a positive association with bathtime, reflecting staff's patience, emotional intelligence and persistence.

Education is a clear priority in the home. Staff actively promote learning and ensure that children attend schools that meet their individual needs. Both children attend settings where they are well supported and engaged, and their attendance is excellent. Strong working relationships between staff and education providers promote effective information-sharing and consistency, contributing to positive outcomes and stable routines for children.

Children's health needs are managed effectively. While both children have individual and differing medical needs, including one condition that is life-threatening if not properly managed, staff demonstrate confidence and competence in meeting these needs. Staff know the children well and advocate strongly on their behalf. Staff are particularly vigilant when medication requires review due to adverse effects that children may struggle to articulate. Any concerns are addressed promptly. Medication errors have been rare and, where they have occurred, have been managed openly and swiftly, with learning implemented by managers to reduce the risk of recurrence. This supports children's ongoing safety and wellbeing.

An identified therapeutic approach to better support the care of the children is at an early stage of implementation in the home. Staff are supported to understand this approach by the in-house therapist and trained colleagues. Elements of this approach are evident in daily practice, including how staff communicate with children and record interactions. However, language used in some children's records is negative and blaming towards one child. This indicates that child-friendly language is not yet used consistently across the team and requires further oversight and development.

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

Where issues between children have been identified, staff have developed individualised, child-friendly plans to support children's understanding and engagement. Following incidents, staff carry out restorative work appropriate to the children's ages and abilities. This supports learning and reconciliation, and reduces the likelihood of recurrence. While promoting positive relationships between the children has at times been challenging, staff remain proactive and persistent in encouraging positive interactions between peers.

Physical intervention is used only when necessary and is carried out by appropriately trained staff. Clear de-escalation strategies are in place and are routinely used to prevent situations from becoming difficult. Post-incident reflections consistently take place with staff and children, and any identified learning informs timely changes to plans or practice.

There have been no episodes of going missing, allegations or complaints since the last inspection. Children know how to raise concerns and say that staff listen to them and take their views seriously. This shows that children feel safe, well cared for and supported by staff who know them well.

Children living in this home are vulnerable and have complex needs. Safer recruitment practices are appropriately followed for all new staff. Thorough pre-employment checks are completed to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children.

Staff consistently manage incidents in the home effectively. Risk assessments are clear and accessible, identifying appropriate strategies to reduce the likelihood of incidents and guide staff responses. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of these documents and generally follow children's individual plans when managing behaviour. However, not all known risks are consistently recorded in risk assessments, which limits clarity and does not always support fully robust care planning.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager demonstrates effective leadership and a clear commitment to providing high-quality, child-centred care. They maintain a consistent and visible presence in the home and are actively involved in the day-to-day lives of the children. Through their own practice, they role model warm, nurturing and respectful relationships effectively, setting clear expectations for staff and promoting a culture of care.

Children's progress, safety and wellbeing are central to the manager's approach. The manager is confident and proactive in challenging professionals and partner agencies when they do not meet the children's needs or expected standards. The manager advocates professionally and persistently on behalf of the children, ensuring that children's views and best interests are prioritised. They work collaboratively with other professionals to secure care arrangements that appropriately meet each child's individual needs. As a result, children have made meaningful and sustained progress.

Team meetings are well attended and positively regarded by staff. They are consistently focused on the individual needs of the children, including identifying areas of concern, reviewing safeguarding matters, and recognising achievements and progress. Meetings promote reflective practice, enabling staff to evaluate their approaches, consider alternative strategies and share learning. This reflective culture supports a consistent and coordinated approach to care across the staff team and contributes positively to children's experiences and outcomes.

Supervision sessions are regular and of good quality, with a strong focus on the children's needs, experiences and progress. Sessions provide staff with appropriate opportunities to reflect on practice, discuss challenges and consider their own wellbeing. Managers use supervision effectively to promote consistency in care practice and reinforce clear expectations, supporting children to experience stability, safety and predictability. Individual learning needs are clearly identified and addressed through targeted guidance. This supports ongoing improvement in staff practice and the delivery of high-quality care.

The independent person has not consistently evaluated or scrutinised safeguarding incidents during their monthly visits to the home. Leaders and managers have identified concerns with the independent person and put appropriate actions in place. However, they have not taken sufficient or consistent action to challenge the independent person's limited evaluation of safeguarding practice for children.

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff continually and actively assess the risks to each child and the arrangements in place to protect them. Where there are safeguarding concerns for a child, their records must include details of the steps the home will take to manage any assessed risks on a day-to-day basis. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 42, paragraph 9.5)
- The registered person should ensure staff record information on individual children in a non-stigmatising way that distinguishes between fact and opinion. Information about the child must always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 62, paragraph 14.4)
- The registered person should ensure that any individual appointed to carry out visits to the home as an independent person makes a rigorous and impartial assessment of the home's arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children in the home's care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 65, paragraph 15.5)

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: 2802513

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Care Hubz Ltd

Registered provider address: Thorpe House, 61 Richardshaw Lane, Stanningley, Pudsey LS28 7EL

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Deirdre Silkstone, Social Care Inspector

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