

2807199

Registered provider: Young UK Today Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home has been registered with Ofsted since March 2025 and provides care for up to five children who experience difficulties in managing their emotions and behaviour.

The home's registered manager left their role in March 2026. The home is currently being managed by an interim manager.

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

Inspection dates: 21 and 22 April 2026

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

requires improvement to be good

How well children and young people are helped and protected

requires improvement to be good

The effectiveness of leaders and managers

requires improvement to be good

The children's home is not yet delivering good help and care for children and young people. However, there are no serious or widespread failures that result in their welfare not being safeguarded or promoted.

Date of last inspection: 27 August 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: Good

Enforcement action since last inspection: None

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
27/08/2025	Full	Good

Summary of findings

The quality of care provided to children has been inconsistent. There have been shortfalls in safeguarding practice, particularly in identifying and responding to risks and the quality of record-keeping. These failings have not consistently supported safe or effective care.

Children have experienced a lack of continuity of care due to staff shortages and a high turnover of both staff and managers. This instability has undermined the consistency and reliability of support available to children.

As a result, children's experiences have been negatively affected and limited their ability to make progress.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: requires improvement to be good

Since the last inspection, two children moved into and subsequently out of the home. Although assessments were completed before moving in, these lacked sufficient exploration of the children's needs. Children with similar needs and overlapping risks lived together without adequate strategies to reduce risks. Senior leaders acknowledge this shortfall and have undertaken reflective learning to help strengthen future decision-making.

Not all children have made progress while living at the home. Professionals describe a prolonged period of instability during which children were unsettled and lacked the stability needed to make progress. During this time care was characterised as 'fire-fighting', with staff focused on responding to crises instead of providing proactive structured support to meet children's needs.

One child has made some progress in relation to their education when considering their starting point. However, this progress has not been consistent, with the child's school raising concerns about a recent decline in attendance.

A child spoke about the effect of the turnover of staff. While they acknowledged that these changes have been difficult at times, they said that newly appointed staff have demonstrated care and commitment in building positive relationships with them, stating that 'staff always listen. I know they care'. New staff have quickly developed a good understanding of the child's needs and demonstrate confidence in meeting their day-to-day care and supporting their emotional wellbeing.

Children are supported and encouraged to participate in a range of activities that reflect their interests. Staff actively help children to maintain friendships, including welcoming friends into the home.

Children's family time is prioritised. When appropriate to do so, staff take proactive steps to support children to spend time with their families. One parent spoke positively about the care provided to their child and described staff as welcoming and approachable when visiting the home.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: requires improvement to be good

Risk management arrangements for children have not always been effective. The absence of risk assessments and clear planning has meant that staff have not always had an understanding of the strategies required to safeguard children. These failings were identified following the appointment of a new senior management team, and appropriate risk assessments have since been implemented.

There have been repeat incidents of children going missing from the home. Staff generally take proactive steps to locate children, including actively searching for them and providing support to encourage their safe return. However, opportunities to take preventative action has not always been taken. This has included the absence of door alarms and a management decision to remove the waking night staff, despite an increased risk of a child being missing from home overnight. Consequently, a child was able to leave the home during the night without staff noticing.

There have been delays and omissions in the notification of serious incidents to Ofsted, which has limited the effectiveness of regulatory oversight of the home.

There are significant shortfalls in the quality and consistency of safeguarding records. This has included missing and incomplete documentation, which has made it difficult to identify actions taken in response to safeguarding incidents. The quality of records has notably improved since the introduction of the new senior management team, with increased oversight and clearer expectations now in place.

Physical intervention is rarely used by staff. When it is used, it is proportionate and only as a last resort. However, medical attention has not always been offered following incidents of restraint. While debrief discussions with children are understood to have taken place, these are not consistently recorded. In addition, management oversight of these incidents has not always been evident.

When children have made allegations against staff, concerns have been responded to appropriately, with immediate safeguarding measures put in place and relevant agencies notified. Investigations have been completed and outcomes recorded.

Staff demonstrate professional curiosity in their work with children, which acts as a safeguard to help identify potential risks. When concerns are identified, staff share

relevant information with children's social workers and engage children in supportive discussions to help them understand risks and build their safety awareness.

The child currently living in the home shared that there has been an increase in rules in the home since the recent change in management. While they did not necessarily agree with all the rules, they demonstrated an understanding that they are intended to help keep them safe.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: requires improvement to be good

Since the last inspection, both the registered manager and the responsible individual have stopped working for the organisation. The registered manager left the home at short notice without the child having the opportunity to say goodbye.

Prior to the registered manager leaving, senior leaders had identified concerns regarding the effectiveness of leadership and management, including failures to consistently comply with regulatory requirements and the organisation's expected standards of practice.

Management monitoring and scrutiny of the home has been ineffective. As a result, shortfalls have not been identified or addressed in a timely way. The senior management team openly acknowledge both previous and remaining areas for improvement and demonstrate a commitment to addressing these.

Independent monthly reports and the registered manager's quarterly review of care have not provided sufficient scrutiny to identify weaknesses or drive improvement in the home. Senior leaders recognised this shortfall and have appointed a new independent person, who completed their first visit this month.

Alongside changes in leadership, the home has experienced significant staff turnover, with only one staff member remaining in post since the last inspection. The service has been overly reliant on agency staff, which has negatively affected continuity of care and consistency of practice. Although there has been some recent progress with recruitment, this does not reduce the impact that prolonged instability has had on children's experiences.

New staff describe a positive induction experience, including access to good-quality training and opportunities to shadow colleagues before taking on full responsibilities. Staff feel well supported by the interim manager and senior leadership team and speak positively about morale, describing a culture of optimism about the future of the home. However, despite informal support being available, there have been gaps in the consistent provision of regular, structured supervision.

Most professionals and family members speak positively about the quality of communication from staff. However, one education professional raised concerns about the effectiveness of joint working, stating they are not always promptly informed of significant events outside of formal meetings. They questioned whether earlier

information-sharing may have enabled additional safeguarding measures to be put in place to better support the child.

Children's views are regularly sought, and new managers have introduced creative approaches to help capture children's voices. This feedback is appropriately reflected in children's day-to-day experiences and helps inform their care planning.

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, 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; 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 work as a team where appropriate; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child; ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to each child; understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home; demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on— research and developments in relation to the ways in which the needs of children are best met;	29 May 2026

feedback on the experiences of children, including complaints received; and 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)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(g)(i)(ii)(h))	
The registered person must ensure that all employees— receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience (Regulation 33 (4)(b))	29 May 2026
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; manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vii))	24 April 2026
The registered person must ensure that— within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes—	24 April 2026

the name of the child; details of the child's behaviour leading to the use of the measure; the date, time and location of the use of the measure; a description of the measure and its duration; details of any methods used or steps taken to avoid the need to use the measure; the name of the person who used the measure ("the user"), and of any other person present when the measure was used; the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; a description of any injury to the child or any other person, and any medical treatment administered, as a result of the measure; within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person")— has spoken to the user about the measure; has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii))(b)(i)(ii)(c))	
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the 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	29 May 2026

that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home's statement of purpose; that arrangements are in place to— ensure the effective induction of each child into the home manage and review the placement of each child in the home that each child's relevant plans are followed; (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(c))	
In meeting the quality standards, the registered person must, and must ensure that staff— seek to develop and maintain effective professional relationships with such persons, bodies or organisations as the registered person considers appropriate having regard to the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the children's home is to provide care and accommodation. (Regulation (5)(d))	29 May 2026

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: 2807199

sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Young UK Today Limited

Registered provider address: Suite 85, 77 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0HW

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Natalie Foreman

Inspector

Kerry Howarth, Social Care Inspector

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