

2809246

Registered provider: Kids Inc Residential Services Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately owned and provides care for up to 2 children who may have a learning disability.

There was one child living in the home at the time of the inspection.

There has been no manager since 2 May 2026.

Inspectors spoke with the child on both days of the inspection.

Inspection dates: 16 and 17 June 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	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 1 July 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/07/2025	Full	Good

Summary of findings

Since the last full inspection, the regulator has received a complaint about children's care. On this inspection, all aspects of the complaint were reviewed. The provider has acted appropriately and in accordance with its complaint processes.

Since the last full inspection, 2 children have been cared for at the home and have since left. One child has moved in, and one child was at this home for a limited time. The residing child is making some progress. The leadership and management of the service are not yet fully effective, and a registered manager has not been recruited.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Staff provide the child with a good standard of care. Staff work hard to form relationships with the child, who in turn values their support and guidance. Staff use a trauma-informed model of care under the guidance of a therapist. Staff are nurturing and patient in their approach with the child.

A previously cared for child who had complex emotional health needs did not experience a stable placement. The child moved to another care setting in a short time frame. The staff team did, however, work hard and showed resilience to try and keep the child safe.

When children are out of formal education, the staff team provides informal learning through daily planned activities. These activities help children to improve their confidence and support them to develop their social skills. The provider is working with the local authority and education providers to secure a suitable school place for the child who is being cared for.

When a child has been in a crisis due to their mental health, the staff have sought health advice and, where needed, support for the child to attend hospital. Additional support from the home's therapist has been highly valued by staff at a time of significant challenge.

Staff are flexible and adaptable when seeking the child's views, wishes and feelings. When a child has a good idea about how they want their home to look, where appropriate, these wishes are acted on. For example, the child chose to make one room into a calming and quiet environment, and this was implemented.

Staff recognise the importance of keeping in touch with important people in the child's life. Where appropriate, communication with family is supported. However, this is led by the child.

The child likes their bedroom, and this reflects their personality. However, several areas of the home need improvement.

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

Children know how to make complaints. Managers take children's complaints seriously and write to children acknowledging these and outlining a time frame for resolution. Child-focused discussions enable staff to help children understand their complaints and the outcome. When a complaint is made by the community or by stakeholders, the provider takes effective action.

Allegations are escalated and investigated appropriately. Managers ensure that they promptly inform the local authority designated officer following any allegation. Safeguarding protocols are consistently followed.

Children's risk assessments describe what staff must do to keep children safe. The assessments set out the therapeutic approach that children could benefit from. Risk assessments are reviewed to accurately reflect current levels of risk. This means that, when possible, children can experience new challenges and develop new skills while remaining safe.

Although incidents happen for children, these are reducing over time, which is a sign of progress. The overall impact is that the home environment is calmer and a place where children feel safe. Children are encouraged by staff to explore their behaviour and why they may behave in the way that they do.

The provider has a robust safer recruitment process. This helps to ensure that only those adults who have been assessed as suitable to work with children are employed in the role.

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

There have been changes in the leadership of the home. The registered manager and responsible individual have left, and new leaders have been recruited. This has meant that information about children was not readily available at this inspection.

The home is adequately staffed, and recruitment for vacant posts and a new manager is being prioritised. However, not all staff are experienced, including some shift leaders.

A child moved into this home inappropriately and without the necessary support in place. Staff struggled to provide the level of care that this child needed. This had a negative impact on the child.

The staff team, although new, is aspirational for children. It is motivated to understand children's histories and presenting needs. Team morale is good.

Staff supervision is effective. Staff value having this time to reflect on their practice. Staff training is meaningful and helps staff to build on their skills and experience. The provider is good at working with external agencies. They have collaborative working relationships with a wide range of professionals and partner agencies. Feedback from professionals is overwhelmingly positive and commends their commitment to the child.

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 registered provider must appoint a person to manage the children's home if— there is no registered manager in respect of the home; and the registered provider— is an organisation or a partnership; does not satisfy regulation 28; or is not, or does not intend to be, in day-to-day charge of the home. If the registered provider appoints a person to manage the home, the registered provider must, without delay, give HMCI notice of— the name of the person so appointed; and the date on which the appointment takes effect. (Regulation 27 (1)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii) (2)(a)(b)) This relates to there being no manager in post. This relates to a new leadership and management team that is not yet fully embedded and not yet providing effective oversight of care practice.	30 July 2026
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home.	30 July 2026

In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—

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;
and

plan for, and help, each child to prepare to leave the home or to move into adult care in a way that is consistent with arrangements agreed with the child's placing authority.
(Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(i)(ii)(iii))

This relates to a child living at the home when staff did not have the right experience to provide effective care.

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the children's home is a nurturing and supportive environment that meets the needs of the children and is a homely, domestic environment. The children's home must comply with relevant health and safety legislation (alarms, food hygiene etc.). However, in doing so, the home should seek as far as possible to maintain a domestic rather than 'institutional' impression. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)
- The registered person should support staff to be ambitious for every child in the home and to gain skills and experience that enable them to actively support each child to achieve their potential. To ensure staff can understand and meet each child's needs, in line with their responsibilities, the registered person themselves will need to have a high level of understanding of the needs of the children in their care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 52, paragraph 10.5)

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: 2809246

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Kids Inc Residential Services Ltd

Registered provider address: 11 Gatley Road, Cheadle SK8 1LY

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Simon Hunter, Social Care Inspector
Emma Dacres, Social Care Inspector

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