

2816504

Registered provider: Cherry Lane Therapeutic Homes 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 one child who experiences social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the inspection, one child was living in the .

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since December 2024.

Inspection dates: 27 and 28 April 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	outstanding
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	outstanding
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding
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The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

Date of last inspection: 15 April 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
15/04/2025	Full	Good

Summary of findings

One child has continued to live in the home since the last inspection. Managers and staff provide outstanding care, protection and leadership, resulting in exceptional progress for the child. The child is achieving positive outcomes in their independence, education, community involvement and emotional security. Excellent safeguarding, strong advocacy and compassionate leadership ensure that the child's voice is central to decision-making. The child is being supported to confidently prepare for adulthood.

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Since the last inspection, one child has continued to live in the home and is making excellent progress. The child lives in a well-maintained and child-focused home that is personalised to their tastes.

The child has secure, trusting and warm relationships with staff. These positive relationships have helped the child to develop confidence, regulate their emotions and respond positively to guidance from staff.

Staff have carried out meaningful direct work with the child's family to help repair and rebuild relationships. As a result, the child now benefits from relaxed, high-quality time with their family. For example, staff supported the child and their family to go on a holiday abroad, which created positive shared experiences and strengthened family bonds.

The child has made excellent progress in their education. They had struggled to engage in education; however, they are now participating regularly and are working towards completing qualifications. Staff have worked well with education professionals, through regular networking meetings, to ensure that the child is receiving the most appropriate support in school.

Staff are supporting the child to prepare for their transition from the home. This includes helping the child to develop independence by supporting them to use public transport to travel to school, and to prepare their own meals. Staff consistently model positive life skills. This helps the child to gain the confidence and skills needed to carry out everyday tasks independently.

Leaders are creative in their approach to helping the child feel part of the local community. For example, leaders have identified opportunities for the child to begin volunteering in their local area. This is helping the child to develop a sense of belonging and gain meaningful experiences that support their confidence and preparation for adulthood.

The child's voice is central to decision-making at the home, and their views are considered thoughtfully and sensitively. The child is empowered to share their views in a meaningful and impactful way. For example, leaders have supported the child to speak with a local MP about their experience of domestic abuse. This has supported the child's confidence in stepping out to effect positive change.

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

There is an excellent approach to safeguarding in the home and staff have a sound understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They are confident in recognising and responding to concerns. Clear procedures are followed consistently, ensuring that risks are identified promptly and appropriate action is taken to keep the child safe.

The child is involved in creating their own safety plans. For example, the child has provided input into how they can safely and gradually take responsibility for having a mobile phone. The involvement of the child in this plan has meant that they have engaged fully in their own safety and provided solution-focused ideas. This has resulted in safe use of the phone.

Staff work diligently with external agencies to ensure the child's safety. In one situation, the child was not being sufficiently safeguarded from risks outside of the home. Leaders supported the child to apply to the civil courts to ensure their safety, enabling the child to be safeguarded from these external risks in a timely manner.

Staff implement the home's model of care consistently. Physical intervention is rarely used and incidents in the home have reduced significantly. When incidents do occur, staff use creative approaches, including the use of restorative videos, to resolve them and to assist future learning. These approaches have helped to rebuild emotional security and strengthen relationships with the child.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

The home is led by compassionate, child-focused and committed leaders. Together, they have successfully embedded their chosen model of care. Leaders are supported by a dedicated and proactive staff team, who all have high aspirations for the child. As a result, the child receives high-quality care from a well-informed, stable and cohesive staff team.

The registered manager is creative in how she oversees the home. For example, she regularly works shifts alongside staff, allowing her to gain a clear understanding of daily practice and the experiences of the child. This approach allows the manager to maintain strong oversight of the quality of care.

Staff benefit from reflective supervision that takes into account their wellbeing. Staff praise the support and guidance they receive from leaders. They feel inspired and motivated by leaders and this helps to ensure that they continue to provide high-quality care.

The registered manager is a strong advocate for the child. For example, when the child was refused an education placement, the registered manager challenged this decision through a variety of means. The decision was overturned, resulting in the child being fully engaged and achieving in education. An education professional said, 'It is heartwarming to work with a home like this.'

The registered manager works transparently with other professionals and family members. This ensures that the child's plans are well informed and consistent. The child's parents said, 'We feel privileged to have found this home. The support they give [name of child] and us is life changing.'

No requirements or recommendations were made at this inspection.

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: 2816504

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Cherry Lane Therapeutic Homes Ltd

Registered provider address: Chapel Cottage, Chapel Lane, Westfield, Hastings TN35 4QX

Responsible individual: Kerry Shoesmith

Registered manager: Lucy Wright

Inspector

Stephanie McDonald, Social Care Inspector

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