

2816793

Registered provider: Aspiration House Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and operated by a private company. It provides care for up to 8 children who have learning difficulties, physical disabilities or a sensory impairment.

At the time of this visit, no children were living at the home.

Education is provided on site. The inspector only inspected the social care provision on this site.

The home has been without a registered manager since October 2025. A new manager has been appointed and has commenced employment. They have applied to be registered with Ofsted.

The registered provider has appointed a new responsible individual. The process for them being assessed as suitable has been delayed but continues to progress.

Inspection date: 31 March 2026

This monitoring visit

On 7 January 2026, an assurance inspection was carried out that identified serious and widespread concerns about the safeguarding arrangements for children. This was due to poor leadership and management arrangements in the home. As a result, Ofsted served a notice restricting accommodation until 2 April 2026 and raised requirements in relation to regulation 12 (the protection of children standard), regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard), regulation 23 (medicines), regulation 26 (fitness of the registered provider) and regulation 40 (notification of a serious event) of The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015.

A monitoring visit was carried out on 26 February 2026 to consider and assess any progress made by the provider in response to the restriction notice and against the

requirements that were set. Following that visit, the requirements set under regulations 26 and 40 had been met. An additional requirement under regulation 25 (fire safety) was raised.

Since the last inspection, the provider has continued to comply with the restriction of accommodation notice; no children have moved in and no children were living at the home at the time of this visit.

Since the children moved out of the home, there has been a focus on improving the environment in the home. There have been significant improvements to communal spaces for children's use. Halls and lounges are now brighter, with child-friendly themes throughout. There has been a focus on the sensory needs of children being considered through wall decorations and appropriate lighting. The home now feels less institutionalised and more like a home for children.

Children's bedrooms have all been redecorated and refurnished. Some rooms are ready for children to move in, whereas others have been purposefully left in a neutral state so that children can be involved in decorating and personalising the space to their taste or in line with their needs. Rooms that have purposely fitted soft walls for children who may self-injure are positive spaces. The specially fitted padding is safe, secure and child friendly.

There has been a focus on bathrooms and en-suite facilities for children. There are now more options overall from a previous position of children and staff having to use 2 bathrooms between them. Showers have been added to some children's bathrooms. Existing shared bathrooms have been fully renovated to ensure that they are safe and free of mould and additional hazards. A programme of cleaning is now in place to ensure that all spaces are maintained and fit for children to use.

Issues relating to fire safety have been addressed. The home has a suitable fire risk assessment in place. Fire doors and safety features are compliant with regulations. The home now has a suitable floor plan to support fire safety planning. All staff have received fire safety training and understand emergency procedures.

The leadership team has improved but continues to develop. A new manager has been appointed and has applied to be registered. There is a responsible individual who has overseen the improvement programme in the home. An operations manager has also been appointed with a transition plan in place for them to take on the role of responsible individual. Team leaders are in place to reinforce the team structure under leaders and managers. There is increased sense of ownership and oversight of the improvement programme. Leaders now have an effective development plan in place.

There has been a positive programme of training and development for the staff. This has been led primarily by the leadership team alongside a training provider that they

liaise with closely. Training is being tailored to the needs of the children and any identified shortfalls in staff's skills or understanding. Face-to-face and online training has been implemented, as well as workshops and scenario-based discussions devised by leaders. Previous shortfalls have been identified through reviews and used as examples of poor practice to upskill staff and remodel expectations.

There has been a transfer from paper-based recording to electronic systems, reducing the risk of poor reporting and recording. Whereas there were examples of recording being done on behalf of staff, there is now a focus on oversight of recording to support accuracy rather than correcting it. Staff are being supported to understand the importance of accurate recording and why they need to share information as a safeguarding responsibility.

Staff have received training in the safe handling of medication. Workshops have been conducted with staff to improve medication administration practice. The home's medication policy has been updated to include clear guidance for staff in the event of an error being identified.

Staff spoken to were excited about the improvements to the home and the support they are receiving. Staff feel that the training has been excellent. They said that the new leadership team is starting to bring about positive change.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/10/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good

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 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; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm; that the premises used for the purposes of the home are located so that children are effectively safeguarded; that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health; (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(b)(c)(d)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that any potential risks in the home are identified and that action is taken to reduce the risks. In addition, the registered person must ensure that children's care records accurately reflect their lived experiences of living at the home.	30 June 2026

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; and 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 have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of 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; 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)(c)(f)(h)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff are suitably trained and that management oversight captures lessons learned that inform future practice.	30 June 2026
The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. In particular, the registered person must ensure that— medicine which is prescribed for a child is administered as prescribed to the child for whom it is prescribed and to no other child; and a record is kept of the administration of medicine to each child. (Regulation 23 (1) (2)(b)(c))	30 June 2026

In particular, the registered person must ensure that staff administer and record medication in line with the organisation's internal policy. In addition, staff must receive training to carry out medication checks, audits and address errors in the administration and recording of medication.	
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Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2816793

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Aspiration House Limited

Registered provider address: 2nd Floor, 9 Portland Street, Manchester M1 3BE

Responsible individual: post vacant

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Chris Haines, Social Care Inspector

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