

SC005553

Registered provider: Dalepeak Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is operated by a private organisation. The home provides care for up to 4 children with learning disabilities. At the time of the inspection, there were 3 children living in the home. One child was observed during the inspection.

The manager was registered with Ofsted in September 2010.

Inspection date: 18 March 2026

Date of last inspection: 7 October 2025

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At these inspections, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

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'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Since the last inspection two children have moved into the home, and one young person has moved into independent living. There are no longer any adults living in the home and all of the moves for children have been well planned.

The home is a large, detached house which is clean and well presented. However, the bathrooms require upgrading and the manager confirmed that they have plans in place to address this.

Staff recognise the importance of children having access to enjoyable and age-appropriate experiences. Well-planned activities are now incorporated into children's weekly routines, and the manager sources inclusive venues, including disability-friendly sessions. In addition, one child has been supported to go on a holiday to Spain.

Children's health needs are well met. Since moving into the home, children have gained weight and experienced improved sleep. One child has had periods of ill health, and staff have responded appropriately and advocated effectively on their behalf. The manager requests best-interest meetings when required to ensure that decisions about children's health are made through a multi-agency approach. However, the manager has not ensured that clear guidance is in place for staff to follow after a child is discharged from hospital.

The use of physical restraint is rare. However, there are other restrictions in place to keep children safe that are not being recorded or monitored to ensure that measures are effective. Additionally, there are no plans in place to work towards these restrictions being reduced for children.

Since the last inspection, staff have received appropriate training to strengthen their knowledge. The manager arranged a visit from the local authority designated officer, who provided staff with further clarity about their role and the processes for managing allegations. When children raise concerns, these are now managed appropriately, and information is shared promptly with relevant professionals. Children are also informed of the outcome of their complaint.

The manager has introduced new records that allow for robust data collection to inform children's plans. However, the manager does not always approve records and evaluate staff practice in a timely manner. This means that minor shortfalls in staff practice have not been identified or addressed.

Staff now receive individualised supervision sessions that allow them to reflect on their practice and their role within the team. Regular team meetings ensure there is consistency in staff practice and good communication.

The manager has submitted a quality-of-care review that includes positive feedback from others and includes a clear action plan to make improvements going forward.

The requirements and recommendations from the last inspection have been met.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/10/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
11/03/2025	Full	Good
06/02/2024	Full	Good
14/03/2023	Full	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 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; 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)(h) This relates specifically to the registered person ensuring that the children have clear plans in place for the staff to follow to ensure their wellbeing. This further relates to the registered person ensuring that they review incident records so that any issues with staff practice can be quickly identified.	1 May 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— the name of the child;	1 May 2026

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; and

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; and

has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and

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.

Paragraph (3) does not apply in relation to restraint that is planned or provided for as a matter of routine in the child's EHC plan or statement of special educational needs.

(Regulation 35 (3)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(vii)(b)(1)(ii)(c) (4))

This relates specifically to the registered person ensuring all restrictive practices are being recorded and monitored for their effectiveness.

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that restrictive practices are identified within a broad ranging, robust behaviour support plan which aims to bring about the circumstances where continued use of such practice will no longer be required. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 47, paragraph 9.45)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC005553

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Dalepeak Limited

Registered provider address: 60 School Lane, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6QE

Responsible individual: Lisa McCloskey

Registered manager: John Allen

Inspector

Kerri Lynch, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2026