

SC023741

Registered provider: Ethelbert Specialist Homes Limited

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 3 children who may experience social, emotional or mental health difficulties. At the time of this inspection, one child was living in the home.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since July 2024.

Inspection dates: 20 and 21 January 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: 11 February 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: outstanding

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/02/2025	Full	Outstanding
05/07/2023	Full	Outstanding
20/04/2022	Full	Outstanding
05/05/2021	Full	Outstanding

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Since the last inspection, one child has remained living 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. Staff have creatively remodelled one of the rooms in the home to create a dedicated space for the child to play football. This demonstrates staff's commitment to the child and the importance they place on promoting the child's interests.

The child says they feel loved. The relationships between staff and the child are consistent and stable, ensuring excellent continuity of care. Staff make every effort to involve the child in group activities, such as youth group and football club, to help reduce social isolation. Staff also participate in a fantasy football competition with the child, who is encouraged to make presentations at monthly award ceremonies for the winners. This helps to increase the child's confidence.

The child has made progress in many areas of their life and staff have helped them to explore the activities that they most enjoy. For example, the child's talent for drama is promoted at theatre school. The child takes part in regular work experience and has earned certificates in recognition of their achievements. These experiences have further built their self-esteem and helped them to develop their identity.

The child's views, wishes and feelings are treated with the utmost importance by staff. Staff place emphasis on creating an open, warm and inclusive culture where the child feels listened to. Regular house meetings take place where their views are gathered in relation to holidays, trips and themed nights.

Culture is celebrated and the child takes part in monthly themed culture nights. The child is supported to create menus and cook food from different cultures. This helps them to develop a broader understanding of the world.

Staff are imaginative in their approach to preparing the child for adulthood. They have created a bespoke plan which includes helping the child to travel independently and do household tasks. The child has also been helped to create a CV for employment and has received help with managing finances. As a result, the child is now able to save money and recently contributed to purchasing a new phone with their savings.

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

The child is safeguarded effectively by staff who know them well. Staff have built positive, trusting relationships with the child and supported them to engage meaningfully with other professionals. Support has been carefully planned to ensure that it is individualised and risks are carefully monitored. As a result, there have been only a few

incidents. There have been no physical interventions, and the child does not go missing from home.

When incidents do happen, there is extensive learning and reflection to explore the meaning behind the child's behaviour. Staff are quick to share information around changes in the child's behaviour with the child's network. This helps the child to receive consistent responses from adults.

Staff carry out extensive direct work with the child around exploring healthy relationships. The work is child focused and conversations take place in a natural way. For example, the child is encouraged to reflect on scenes from television shows to help them understand healthy relationships. Furthermore, staff seek regular consultations with specialists to help the child explore their sexuality. This has helped the child to maintain healthy and safe relationships with peers.

The child is supported to understand internet safety. Effective safeguards are in place to monitor the child's online activity. These include daily phone checks and effective parental controls. The child is encouraged to engage in activities around keeping safe online. This learning is supported through open and transparent conversations between the child and staff.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

The registered manager is a force of aspiration and positivity and continuously strives for improvement. This approach has inspired the same culture among staff. She has high expectations for the staff and ensures that there is continuous progress for the child.

Staff feel well supported by the registered manager. They receive regular reflective supervision that encourages their development. Leaders are attuned to the emotional demands of working in the home and offer staff regular formal and informal support. The manager has excellent oversight of the strengths and areas for development in the staff team. One staff member is keen to undertake a counselling course and the manager is seeking ways to support this.

The registered manager acknowledges the difficulties that can arise with lone working. She is quick to rectify any issues, in team meetings and group supervision. There has been no staff turnover, which ensures the child is cared for by familiar and consistent staff.

The registered manager is extremely organised and has established systems for effective oversight and monitoring of the care provided to children. She is aware that the child's needs change quickly and therefore she reviews risk assessments on a regular basis.

Feedback from external professionals is positive. One professional said, 'Communication is excellent.' The child's independent reviewing officer reflected on how staff have an excellent knowledge of the child's needs. They said that the team is heavily involved in the planning for the child's transition to adulthood to ensure this goes well.

No requirements or recommendations following 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: SC023741

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Ethelbert Specialist Homes Limited

Registered provider address: Ethelbert Specialist Homes Limited, 17 Leigh Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 5EU

Responsible individual: Leslie Davenport

Registered manager: Lesley Dunne

Inspector

Stephanie McDonald, Social Care Inspector

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