

SC025664

Registered provider: Ownlife Residential Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run home provides care for up to three children with social and emotional difficulties.

The home registered with Ofsted in June 2001. The current manager was registered with Ofsted in May 2023. At the time of this inspection, three children were living at the home and were the same children from the last inspection.

Inspection dates: 19 and 20 May 2025

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	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 20 June 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/06/2024	Full	Good
23/08/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
15/11/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
13/10/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

All three children have made significant progress in their emotional, physical and social development.

Children's moves into the home are carried out with care, taking into account their past experiences and the skills of the staff. This thoughtful planning enables children to settle quickly and thrive in a nurturing and homely environment.

Children are supported to attend school. One child has been able to continue at the same school they attended before moving into the home, providing them with stability as they prepare to complete their exams this summer. Staff worked with one child's placing local authority to arrange for a tutor to work with the child outside the home at a family member's property. Another child has been unable to continue at their previous school, and staff are working closely with the virtual school team to secure an alternative provision.

Children feel valued and have trusting relationships with staff. Staff support the children to stay in touch with people who are important to them. This has helped children to maintain significant relationships.

The home environment is welcoming and well maintained. The children have decorated their bedrooms to reflect their personal preferences and personalities. This has helped to promote their individuality and foster a strong sense of belonging.

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

Children say that they feel safe in the home. This was shared by all three children and in conversations with staff.

The number of incidents of children going missing from the home has decreased. One child, who previously went missing frequently, is no longer going missing. This is a significant step forward that their parent has recognised as essential for their safety. Staff show curiosity before, during and after incidents when a child has gone missing from the home. This approach has helped to inform future care planning and minimise the risks that children face.

Risk assessments provide staff with clear information and the actions needed to keep children safe. These assessments are thorough and consider all potential risks.

Staff engage in regular conversations with children to help them understand risks. These discussions are tailored to each child's individual needs and vulnerabilities. While records of these conversations are maintained, they do not currently incorporate the views or evidence of the child's personal reflections.

Staff do not use physical restraint to manage children's behaviour. Instead, they build strong and trusting relationships with the children, understanding that their actions are a form of communication. By recognising and responding to this, staff can provide the right support. They emphasise positive reinforcement, using rewards to encourage children to recognise their strengths.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager and responsible individual have worked diligently to establish a stable and permanent staff team. This consistency ensures that children are cared for by familiar staff and allows them to build secure and trusting relationships.

Staff feel well supported by management, with training carefully tailored to both children's needs and the staff's own development. Regular supervision sessions provide staff with ongoing support that promotes their well-being. At the heart of these discussions are children's safety and progress.

Annual staff appraisals include clearly defined timescales for professional development, ensuring that children receive care from a skilled and continually evolving workforce.

Leaders and managers have systems in place to evaluate care. However, these systems do not include any analysis of the children's progress and result in a report that is then shared with Ofsted every six months that aligns with regulation 45.

Leaders and managers have a strong understanding of the home's strengths and areas for development. Record-keeping is effective in capturing children's lived experiences. However, some records require updating to ensure that children's personal details stay current and accurate.

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 person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children at least once every 6 months. In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating— the quality of care provided for children; the feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided for children. After completing a quality of care review, the registered person must produce a written report about the quality of care review and the actions which the registered person intends to take as a result of the quality-of-care review. The registered person must— supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality-of-care review is completed; and make a copy of the quality of care review report available on request to a placing authority, if the placing authority is not the parent of a child accommodated in the home. (Regulation 45 (a)(b)(c) (3) (4)(a)(b))	10 July 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that all children's records are kept up to date and include the children's personal details, including the home address and contact details for significant people. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.3)
- The registered person should ensure that all staff encourage children to see the home's records as 'living documents', supporting them to view and contribute to the record in a way that reflects their voice on a regular basis. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 58, paragraph 11.9)

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: SC025664

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Ownlife Residential Limited

Registered provider address: Ownlife Ltd, Legion House, 75 Lower Road, Kenley CR8 5NH

Responsible individual: David Hastings

Registered manager: Sharon Odumosu

Inspector

Richard Wyper, Social Care Inspector

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