

SC034686

Registered provider: Durham County Council

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a local authority. It provides care for up to 5 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties and/or have learning disabilities.

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

There is no registered manager. An acting manager is overseeing the running of the home and has applied to register with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 10 March 2026

This monitoring visit

The home closed in November 2023 for refurbishment, and no children have lived there since. In January 2024, Ofsted imposed a three-month condition, meaning the provider must give notice to the regulator of its intention to provide care for a child.

The provider gave Ofsted notice that it is ready to provide care for children. This visit focused on whether the provider continues to meet its statutory requirements to maintain its registration and is ready to accept placements.

The home has undergone a full refurbishment. There is a large kitchen dining room that has enhanced the living environment. The bedrooms are well presented and are ready to comfortably accommodate children. There is plenty of outdoor space for children to enjoy. The home is bright, spacious, warm and inviting, ready to welcome children.

There is a new manager in post. Sufficient staff have been recruited and are ready to welcome children to the home. All staff have completed an induction in preparation. They are completing ongoing training that will continue to develop their knowledge and skills. Safer recruitment practices have been used to employ the new staff.

The manager spoke about the process for assessing children's suitability to live at the home in readiness for the pending referrals. They will work with leaders to support their decision-making. The manager has a specific plan to support children into independence and knows how to manage the process for individual children.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/07/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
29/11/2022	Full	Good
30/08/2022	Full	Inadequate
24/05/2022	Full	Inadequate

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: SC034686

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Durham County Council

Registered provider address: Fostering & Adoption Team, Spectrum 8, Spectrum Business Park, Seaham SR7 7TT

Responsible individual: Paul Rudd

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Gary Smithson, Social Care Inspector

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