

SC052744

Registered provider: Quality Protects Children Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home provides care for up to five children with learning disabilities. There is a school on site. The inspector only inspected the social care provision on this site.

At the time of the inspection, four children were living at the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in June 2018.

Inspection dates: 7 and 8 November 2023

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: 6 December 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/12/2022	Full	Good
26/04/2021	Full	Good
09/07/2019	Full	Good
11/07/2018	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Managers and staff are enthusiastic about achieving positive outcomes for children. Children have good relationships with staff. They trust the members of the staff team, who interact with them with humour and praise. This helps children to develop a sense of permanence and belonging.

Managers and staff place the children at the centre of their practice. When children need additional support to attend meetings about themselves, staff ensure this happens. This gives children the opportunity to share their views and be part of the planning for their future.

Managers and staff have worked tirelessly with children who have complex needs. Good practice has resulted in children making good progress in all aspects of their daily life. Children who have reached adulthood have been supported to move on from the home, with the right level of support in place.

Children attend the school based on the same site. Staff regularly communicate with school staff, so that they understand any known or emerging issues that may affect children's learning. This allows children to be fully supported. Children have excellent attendance at school and from their individual starting points are making good progress. Children have taken and passed exams that will support them into adulthood.

Children's time with their families is well supported. Individual plans are in place to ensure that the time children spend with people who are important to them is enjoyable and beneficial.

Children's hobbies and interests are encouraged. Some children have successfully completed the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Managers and staff have developed strong links with community-based services. Children participate in activities that are specific to their specific needs. For example, one child enjoys football sessions that support their visual impairment.

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

Children are settled living in the home. Since the last inspection, there have been no missing-from-home incidents. The manager has ensured that there is clear guidance in place so that staff know what actions they need to take should there be any incidents of children going missing. Children feel safe living in the home. One child said: 'I will be sad when I leave. I feel safe here and hope I can keep in touch with the staff.'

Risk assessments are individualised and completed with children, parents and professionals involved in their care. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities

in protecting children. Staff are clear about, and follow, procedures for responding to concerns about the safety of a child. Risks for children have reduced significantly for children. When allegations have been made, they have been responded to quickly, so children are kept safe.

Managers and staff regularly review plans alongside the clinical team. Research is used to consider complex issues such as trauma, neglect, autism, and children with learning difficulties.

When children have needed to be held, this has been necessary and proportionate. Children are supported to understand the reason this has happened and are involved in considering alternative ways of managing their feelings safely. The use of physical intervention has significantly reduced for one child.

Positive behaviour is consistently rewarded. Children speak openly about what upsets them and they are supported to understand how to manage their feelings safely. Children have an independent advocate in place so that they have opportunities to discuss any concerns they may have about their care.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is managed by a suitably experienced and qualified manager. Managers have high expectations of the staff team and clear aspirations for all children living in the home.

Managers ensure that staff have the necessary skills and training in place prior to children moving into the home. Managers are committed to the continuous development of the staff team and use research and learning from practice to improve the experiences and care of children.

Managers have taken effective action to challenge placing authorities' plans for children that are not in their best interests. One child has been supported to challenge legal decisions, which has resulted in a clear plan to support their return home to their family.

Managers have good relationships with professionals involved in caring for children with complex needs. Managers ensure that children approaching adulthood have plans in place that include children and adult services to support their transitions to adulthood and independence.

Regular team meetings and effective supervision, which is focused on children's needs, is used as a learning opportunity for all staff to develop their practice.

The manager clearly identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the home. However, during the inspection, shortfalls were identified in the home environment. Leaders and managers have acknowledged this.

The requirements and recommendations made at the last inspection have been met.

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 quality and purpose of care standard is that— children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— provide to children living in the home the physical necessities they need in order to live there comfortably. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(vii)) Specifically, work must be completed in the house to ensure that it is of an appropriate standard for the children to live in. This includes some redecoration, replacing of carpets and the modernisation of the downstairs toilet and upstairs bathrooms.	20 January 2024

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: SC052744

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Quality Protects Children Limited

Registered provider address: Hill House, Archway Road, Huyton, Liverpool
L36 9XB

Responsible individual: Anthony Nolan

Registered manager: Tracy Friel

Inspector

Nicola Forrester, Social Care Inspector

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