

SC053145

Registered provider: Partners in Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned home that provides care for up to two children with social and emotional difficulties.

The home registered with Ofsted in October 2003 and the manager registered in November 2023.

There were two children living at the home at the time of this inspection. Both children were spoken to by the inspector.

Inspection dates: 16 and 17 July 2024

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: 4 July 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/07/2023	Full	Good
05/12/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
13/09/2022	Full	Inadequate
08/07/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Moves for children in and out of the home are exceptionally well planned and managed. There are clear plans in place to support children to move into the home, which demonstrate how children's views are considered. When new children move into the home, the views of the children already living in the home are considered. This creates a sense of belonging for the children and new children settle into the home well.

Some staff have completed a qualification to provide informal learning opportunities to children. The manager works closely with education professionals to secure the best education provision for the children. The manager challenges other professionals when required to ensure that children's educational needs are met well. The children's progress in education is exceptional, considering their starting points. Both children are in full-time education and have achieved qualifications beyond expectations.

The manager and staff ensure that children's health needs are met well. The children are offered emotional support to help them to attend health appointments. The manager advocates on behalf of the children to access the right provision for their needs. The manager challenges other professionals to ensure that the appropriate emotional well-being support is in place for children.

The use of research has helped managers and staff to develop their relationships with children. Their relationships are extremely positive and caring. Staff spend quality time with children, planning and doing activities together. Staff regularly celebrate the children's achievements with them.

Care plans for children clearly set out what is needed to help them make progress. Clear care plans support staff to enhance children's life chances. Plans consider the barriers that might hinder children's progress and identify ways to overcome them. Children are involved in reviewing and updating their plans. They also take part in focused work with staff to help them to meet the aims and objectives of their plans.

Staff support children to see their family members and to remain in contact with them. This helps the children to maintain relationships with the people who are important to them and maintain a sense of identity.

The home is a very welcoming and nurturing environment. Children have personalised their own bedrooms and are settled and happy at the home. However, attention should be given to the cleanliness of some of the doors and the stair bannister.

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

The manager and staff manage children's behaviours well. There are clear and consistent rules and boundaries in place for children to follow. These are appropriate and

in line with children's age and understanding. The focused work and reflection that staff carry out with children helps them to understand the impact of their behaviours. Children participate in creating ways to help them to manage their own feelings and behaviours. This helps children to feel safe and secure.

Staff understand the missing-from-home procedures and protocols and are confident in managing missing-from-home risks and incidents. Since the last inspection, children have not gone missing from the home.

Staff recognise the risks that the internet poses to children. They support children to use the internet safely. They have developed good strategies to keep the children safe from online risks, including issues such as radicalisation and exploitation.

The risk of self-harm for one child is managed well. The child's risk management plan clearly outlines the strategies that staff should take to manage and reduce this risk. As a result, there has been a significant reduction in the risk of self-harm for the child.

The children say that they have trusted staff who they can discuss any worries or concerns with. The staff know the children well, invest time in them and promote their well-being. This gives children a sense of stability and security.

Staff prepare and enable children to take reasonable risks as part of their growth and development. As a result, children are becoming more independent and enjoy spending time in the community with their friends. Children are making good progress in developing their independence skills, with clear plans, support, and independent advocacy in place.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

The manager is an excellent leader who has high standards and demonstrates a passion for her role. She has a detailed understanding of the children in her care and is actively involved in their day-to-day care. She is nurturing and playful in her approach with the children and encourages a culture of professional curiosity in the staff team.

The manager speaks passionately about her role and the care provided to children. She reflects on her own and staff's practice to enable her to make improvements. There is a stable staff team who feel exceptionally well supported, both personally and professionally. Staff speak positively about the strong ethos and values of the manager and staff team.

The leaders and managers have high expectations of their staff to change and improve the lives of the children. They ensure that staff provide high standards of individualised care for each child.

Staff say that they feel well supported by the leaders and managers. There is a good training programme in place for staff. Specific training is undertaken to help staff to meet the individual needs of the children in their care.

The leaders, managers and staff are creative and innovative. They use research to support direct work with the children. A portal has been developed for staff to access research. Staff use this research in their practice to improve the quality of care they provide to children. This has resulted in the risks to children being reduced, and children are making significant positive progress.

The leaders and managers work well with other professionals. Professionals involved with the children are complimentary about the efforts of the manager and staff to support the needs of the children. An education professional said, 'The care staff have been amazing in supporting the children's needs and advocate for them well. They are led well by the management team, and we have a great working relationship.'

Supervision sessions with staff are regular and consider children's needs and progress. However, some supervision records do not demonstrate that reflective discussions always take place.

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that children live in a clean environment. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 14, paragraph 3.3)
- The registered person should ensure that all staff have supervision which enables them to reflect and act on how their own feelings and behaviour may be affected by the behaviour of the children they care for. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 39, paragraph 8.15)

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: SC053145

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Partners in Care Limited

Registered provider address: 2 The Calls, Leeds LS2 7JU

Responsible individual: Zoe Charnock

Registered manager: Kealey Rushworth

Inspector

Debbie Dawson, Social Care Inspector

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