

SC062248

Registered provider: Quality Protects Children Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a private provider. It is registered to provide care for 1 child who may experience social or emotional difficulties, and/or learning disabilities.

At the time of the inspection, there was 1 child living at the home.

The registered manager post is vacant.

Inspection dates: 10 and 11 March 2026

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: 24 September 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: inadequate

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

The home was judged inadequate at a full inspection on 25 September 2025. Following the inspection, Ofsted issued a notice suspending the registration of the home. A monitoring visit was completed on 15 December 2025 and found the provider had complied with the suspension notice. A case review was held, and it was agreed that the provider had taken sufficient steps to address the shortfalls identified on inspection, and the suspension notice was lifted.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/09/2025	Full	Inadequate
29/07/2025	Full	Inadequate
08/10/2024	Full	Good
13/06/2023	Full	Inadequate

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The child said that living at the home is, '10 out of 10' and the staff are, 'amazing'. The child moved to this home from another one owned by the provider. Several of the staff transferred alongside the child to provide them with consistency. They know the child well and are attuned to their feelings. The child is settled at the home with staff that they know and trust.

The child attends education each day with the support of staff and is making good progress in their engagement and attainment. Staff also provide additional educational opportunities for them, such as visiting museums and activities that help promote their independence. The child is developing essential academic and practical skills for the future.

Staff are skilled at encouraging the child to take part in new activities. Previously, the child was too anxious to try outdoor activities. By taking part in the activities with them, staff have supported the child's confidence to grow, and they now enjoy a variety of outdoor pursuits including skiing. This supports the child's physical health as well as their emotional wellbeing.

Managers and staff communicate expectations of behaviour in a way the child understands. They help the child to reflect on negative behaviours without fear of judgement so that they can take responsibility for their actions. However, following 2 incidents when the child used discriminatory language towards staff, managers did not explore opportunities to ensure that the relationship between the child and staff member was repaired. This is a missed opportunity to build on the restorative practice used at the home.

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

Managers provide staff with clear guidance to reduce risks for the child. Managers regularly review and update the guidance to reflect changes in the child's needs or risks. The strategies support the child to feel emotionally safe and as a result, the number of incidents has reduced significantly.

Staff use strategies embedded in the therapeutic model of care used by the provider. When the child is upset, staff know when to give them space, and when to encourage them to share their feelings. The child is learning how to express their emotions in ways that are safe for them.

Staff are skilled in having conversations with the child about key issues. They talk to them about risks, so that they can develop strategies to keep themselves safe. The child is learning about the risks in their wider environment with the help of staff.

Staff are given opportunities to take part in training specific to the needs and risks of the child. This ensures that staff have the skills to identify and respond to risks for the child. However, not all staff have had the opportunity to take part in LGBTQ plus training. Although this does not prevent the child from speaking openly with staff, it is a missed opportunity to ensure that they have the knowledge they need.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Leaders and managers completed a full review of the home following the last inspection. This involved reflecting on lessons learned and developing a clear plan to ensure that previous shortfalls are not repeated. The new staff team are committed to learning and developing their practice.

The home is currently managed by an interim manager with significant experience of managing in residential childcare. Her commitment to the child being cared for in a stable and nurturing environment is communicated clearly through her leadership at the home. She leads a staff team who are equally as committed to ensuring the child is cared for by familiar staff who they can trust.

Leaders and managers ensure that the skills and experience of staff are balanced across shifts. Rotas are carefully planned to ensure that less experienced staff work alongside those with more experience and additional responsibilities. This provides the child with a consistency of care that supports their emotional wellbeing.

Managers hold regular team meetings when staff are encouraged to evaluate the strategies they use. Additionally, staff supervisions and appraisals support them to reflect on their individual areas of development. This ensures that staff practice continuously changes to reflect the needs of the child.

Staff feel supported by managers and say they enjoy working at the home. This means that staff turnover is low. However, when new staff are recruited, leaders and managers do not always fully explore gaps in their employment history. Although this has not resulted in a safeguarding concern, it does not ensure that safer recruitment checks are robust. Leaders and managers took immediate action to address this during the inspection.

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 positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust; an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and positive responses to other children and adults. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— help each child to develop socially aware behaviour; encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and understanding; help each child to develop and practise skills to resolve conflicts positively and without harm to anyone; that each child is encouraged to build and maintain positive relationships with others. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(ii)(iii)(iv)(b)) The registered person must ensure that staff help to rebuild relationships between children and staff following incidents of socially unacceptable behaviour. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	08 April 2026
The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety.	08 April 2026

The registered person may only—

employ an individual to work at the children's home; or

if an individual is employed by a person other than the registered person to work at the home in a position in which the individual may have regular contact with children, allow that individual to work at the home,

if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3).

The requirements are that—

full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2.
(Regulation 32 (1) (2)(a)(b) (3)(d))

In particular, the registered person must ensure that employees share the days, months and years of their previous work history. The registered person must ensure that any gaps in the employees work history are explored thoroughly.

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff are provided with opportunities to engage in training specific to the needs of the child they are caring for. This includes LGBTQ plus training to support the conversations they have with the child about their identity. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations including the quality standards', page 53, paragraph 10.11)

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: SC062248

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: post vacant

Inspector

Sarah Gilbert, Social Care Regulatory Inspector

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