

SC064663

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a private organisation. It provides care for up to seven children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this visit, four children were living at the home. Three children spoke with the inspectors.

Inspectors were aware during this visit of a serious incident concerning a child that had occurred since the last inspection. While Ofsted does not have the power to investigate incidents of this kind, actions taken by the setting in response to the incident were considered alongside other evidence available at the time of the visit to inform inspectors' judgements.

The manager registered with Ofsted in May 2023.

Inspection date: 19 August 2025

This monitoring visit

The purpose of this visit was to review if the risks and care plans of the children living in the home are fully known and managed effectively by the manager and staff team.

Since the last inspection, two children have moved into the home and two children have moved out. When children move into the home, their risks are not always fully identified, and there is insufficient consideration of how their risks and behaviour may affect the children already living at the home.

When children go missing from the home, staff know how to respond. They are proactive in searching for children and work collaboratively with other agencies to help keep them safe. However, staff employed an inappropriate and ineffective method to prevent a child from going missing from home. Consequently, the child experienced additional risks and increased vulnerabilities.

Leaders and managers are reluctant to fully reflect on incidents or apply professional curiosity. This means that practice is not always reflected on to support any learning. Emerging risks to children are not always identified. Leaders and managers are defensive of their practices, which impedes their ability to monitor and review the quality of care provided effectively and make continuous improvement. This has been raised at previous inspections.

The independent person does not routinely visit the home in line with regulation and does not always seek feedback from children or their family members as part of their visit. Ofsted does not always receive the independent person's report in a timely manner. This reduces the regulator's oversight of practice in the home.

There is sufficient staffing at the home. The staff team is stable, and staff say they feel supported by their colleagues and their manager. Some identified risks have reduced for children since they have lived at the home. Incidents of self-harm are less frequent, and staff do not need to physically intervene to keep children safe.

Children live in a spacious and comfortable home. There is room inside and outside for children to relax and spend time together or apart. Children's bedrooms are well furnished and personalised according to their individual tastes.

A case review was carried out during the visit. A decision was made to restrict accommodation at the home. This is because leaders and managers have not had the opportunity to consider how the recent significant incident affected children, staff, leaders and managers or to implement any learning for the team about the management of risk.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
17/06/2025	Full	Good
13/05/2024	Full	Good
05/03/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
02/08/2022	Full	Good

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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)) Specifically, ensure that all risks and how they will be managed are detailed in risk plans and in assessments made before children move into the home.	28 November 2025
The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(h)) Specifically, ensure that leaders and managers have oversight of all work carried out at the home. This includes ensuring that all staff reflect on and evaluate their practice	28 November 2025

and that professional curiosity is encouraged and documented.	
The registered person must ensure that an independent person visits the children's home at least once each month. When the independent person is carrying out a visit, the registered person must help the independent person— if they consent, to interview in private such of the children, their parents, relatives and persons working at the home as the independent person requires. The independent person must provide a copy of the independent person's report to— HMCI. (Regulation 44 (1) (2)(a) (7)(a))	28 November 2025

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: SC064663

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Responsible individual: Ivy Thompson

Registered manager: Claire Turner

Inspectors

Zillah Brooks, Social Care Inspector

Michelle Snape, Social Care Inspector

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