

SC065189

Registered provider: Meadows Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is operated by a private provider and is registered for three children with emotional or social difficulties. Three children were living in the home at the time of the inspection.

The manager registered with Ofsted in May 2020.

Inspection dates: 10 and 11 May 2023

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
---	-------------

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

The effectiveness of leaders and managers	requires improvement to be good
---	---------------------------------

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 24 May 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/05/2022	Full	Good
14/06/2021	Full	Good
19/02/2020	Full	Good
11/07/2018	Full	Outstanding

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The home is comfortable, welcoming and has a homely feeling. There are photos of the children on display. The children each have their own personalised bedroom with an adjoining bathroom. Children feel at home here.

Children have trusting relationships with staff. Inspectors observed positive relationships between staff and children. A child's family member said: 'The staff are amazing with [child's name].'

Staff ensure that they meet children's physical and emotional needs. Staff work with multi-agency professionals to ensure that children have individual support. Staff offer therapeutic support to all the children. When children do not wish to engage with the therapist, the therapist will work with staff to help them understand how to support the children.

Staff support children's relationships with their families. Staff are working closely with a child's social worker and family member. This is to support the child in staying safe. This work enables the child to have a meaningful relationship with their family, which supports their identity.

Children have up-to-date immunisations and health assessments. Staff support children to attend any appointments. This promotes the improvement and maintenance of good health. One child has had difficulty engaging with health appointments. Staff are aware of the child's health issues and are creative in ensuring that they meet the child's health needs.

Children have up-to-date personal education plans. One child is attending education regularly. Staff are proud of the child's progress in attendance and attitude to learning. The other children are currently not attending school regularly. This does not promote improved outcomes.

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

Incidents of children missing from home are low. When this has happened, staff follow a plan to try to locate the child. Information received on the children's return is shared with multi-agency professionals and informs an updated risk assessment. This helps to keep the child safe.

Risk assessments are individualised and updated regularly to meet each of the children's needs. Staff were aware of the risks for each child and how they should respond to them.

Behaviour support plans are specific to each child and easy to understand. This ensures that staff can use strategies to de-escalate behaviours. As a result, staff

have not had to physically hold children to keep them safe. Staff use incentives and take a restorative approach to promote positive behaviours. When consequences are required, children are clear about why these are used.

Medication is safely stored and dispensed by staff. The manager audits medication records regularly. This ensures that mistakes in dispensing medicines are not made.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: requires improvement to be good

The registered manager's ability to effectively manage the home has been affected by a range of difficulties. These include staff leaving and a shortage of senior staff. This means the registered manager has had little support in the daily management of the home.

The children have felt the impact of staffing changes. One child remarked to inspectors that there was a lot of new staff.

Staff receive monthly supervision which is reflective and has a focus on practice. Staff benefit from monthly team meetings. A team meeting was observed during the inspection. This was well attended, and staff used the meeting as an opportunity to share information and learn about the children living in the home. This supports staff to offer consistency of care to children.

Annual appraisals enable the manager to identify the skills, knowledge and identify training needs of the staff team. The manager is helping to stabilise staffing and create positive team morale. This benefits children, who are now receiving consistent and stable care.

The home has good working relationships with partner agencies. The inspectors gained positive feedback from a professional of one child and a family member of another child. Both spoke positively about the standard of care provided to the children.

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, 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 education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— understand the barriers to learning that each child may face and take appropriate action to help the child to overcome any such barriers; help each child to understand the importance and value of education, learning, training, and employment; promote opportunities for each child to learn informally. (Regulation 8 (1) (2)(a)(iii)(iv)(v)) Specifically, ensure that all children are accessing education regularly. At times of non-attendance, alternative informal education should be promoted and provided.	16 June 2023
The health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met; children receive advice, services, and support in relation to their health and well-being; and children are helped to lead healthy lifestyles. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff help each child to—	16 June 2023

achieve the health and well-being outcomes that are recorded in the child's relevant plans understand the child's health and well-being needs and the options that are available in relation to the child's health and well-being, in a way that is appropriate to the child's age and understanding; take part in activities, and attend any appointments, for the purpose of meeting the child's health and well-being needs; understand and develop skills to promote the child's well-being. (Regulation 10 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)) Specifically, ensure that all children have an up-to-date health assessment and are accessing all identified health services regularly.	
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— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(d)) This relates to the employment of senior staff to complete management tasks and support the manager's role.	14 July 2023

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: SC065189

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Meadows Care Limited

Registered provider address: Meadows Care Ltd, Egerton House, Wardle Road, Rochdale, Lancashire OL12 9EN

Responsible individual: Katie Knox

Registered manager: Paula Harden

Inspectors

Cathy Wilkins, Social Care Inspector
Sarah Jackson, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at reports.ofsted.gov.uk/.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: eepurl.com/iTrDn.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023