

SC066129

Registered provider: Fairport Care Services Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned children's home provides care for up to five children with social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in July 2020.

At the time of this inspection, there were four children living in the home.

Inspection dates: 9 and 10 April 2025

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	good
---	------

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

Date of last inspection: 28 August 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/08/2024	Full	Good
17/10/2023	Full	Outstanding
14/02/2023	Full	Outstanding
26/05/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children feel heard and have positive relationships with staff. Consistent permanent staffing supports this. The children feel safe and well cared for. One child described feeling 'the most safe and cared for' since being looked after, and another said, 'It is the place I have felt the most safe in my entire life.'

The home is well presented and replicates a family home. The children's bedrooms reflect their likes, and they are given choice about how these are furnished and decorated. The children have access to communal areas of the home alongside a spacious garden that provides ample room for them to play and enjoy. The children are relaxed in their surroundings.

Children moving into the home is well managed by staff. The children remain central in planning and decision-making. As a result, the children settle in well.

Staff encourage the children's time with their families and those important to them. One parent said, 'Staff ensure my voice is heard too.' One child is being supported with a holiday to Scotland, and arrangements have been made to see family locally while she is there.

Staff use a therapeutic approach when caring for the children and are supported in this approach by a psychotherapist. The children's mental health and well-being are at the core of staff's practice. Staff understand the children's individual needs and are responsive and available when the children are finding things difficult.

The focus on mental well-being has supported the children to maintain their mental health and well-being. However, this approach has had some impact on the children's progress in other areas of development. The scope for children's access to social opportunities and the wider community is limited and efforts to re-engage children with education and learning are sometimes lengthy.

Children are not always fully prepared for moving on or living independently. The plans to develop the children's skills for adulthood are not clear for all children. There has been some drift in one child accessing the support and guidance needed to ensure a smooth move out of the home at a pace that suits their needs.

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

The children trust staff and know that they will keep them safe, and they approach staff for comfort and reassurance.

Staff know and understand how to respond to the risks for the children. The staff complete clear risk assessments that support and inform staff practice. These are kept under regular review.

Staff manage and respond to safeguarding concerns and allegations well. The staff keep placing authorities and parents informed of any concerns. They have developed a positive working relationship with the local authority designated officer. One professional reported, 'Staff are very proactive in responding to and reporting any safeguarding concerns.'

Staff use physical intervention regularly. Staff only use physical intervention as a last resort to keep children safe. Where physical intervention is used, records are clear, and both the staff and children are given the opportunity to reflect and debrief. Staff are trained in the organisation's model of de-escalation and intervention.

Staff are recruited safely, and all necessary checks are completed prior to commencement into role. This ensures that only suitable staff care for the children.

The manager takes health and safety seriously. Any concerns from assessments carried out by external specialists, including fire specialists, are addressed promptly.

The use of bedroom door alarms is transparent. The children and placing authorities are consulted when the children first move in. However, the use of this surveillance is not kept under regular review, making it difficult to ascertain if it remains appropriate.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager is a stable presence and is well supported by the responsible individual (RI). The manager is suitably experienced and qualified and has been in post for several years. Both the manager and RI have established and positive relationships with all the children. The deputy manager also has a positive presence and is complementary to the senior leadership team.

The manager has a good understanding of each of the children and the wider service. There is a progressive plan for the home, which is being actioned.

Parents and professionals are complimentary of the manager and staff team. They report that the children are provided with a good level of care that supports them to make progress. Professionals report good levels of communication and collaborative working.

Staff receive regular supervision and appraisals. Staff report their development needs are responded to and that senior managers are available and approachable. Mandatory training is kept up to date and regularly refreshed, and specialist training is sourced for staff when new needs of the children emerge.

The independent person completes high-quality comprehensive reports, which supports the manager in the monitoring and oversight of the home. Although detailed and informative, the independent person does not always record their opinion on whether children are safeguarded effectively during their visit.

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 independent person must produce a report about a visit which sets out, the independent person's opinion as to whether— children are effectively safeguarded; and the conduct of the home promotes children's well-being. (Regulation 44 (4)(a)(b))	31 July 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should help each child to prepare for any moves from the home, whether they are returning home, moving to another placement or adult care or to live independently. This includes supporting the child to develop emotional and mental resilience to cope without the home's support and, where the child is moving to live independently, practical skills such as cooking, housework, budgeting and personal self-care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 17, paragraph 3.27)
- The registered person should continually and actively assess the risks to each child and the arrangements in place to protect them. This relates to the use of door alarms and whether they are required. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 42, paragraph 9.5)
- The registered person should support staff to be ambitious for every child in the home and actively support each child to achieve their potential. In particular, to ensure that staff are clear on the plans for supporting children's ongoing development. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 52, paragraph 10.5)

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: SC066129

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Fairport Care Services Ltd

Registered provider address: Bank Chambers, 1 Central Avenue ME10 4AE

Responsible individual: Nicky Farrant-D-Wilson

Registered manager: Michelle Porter

Inspector

Cassie Martin, 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 looked after children, 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 <http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://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 2025