

SC066917

Registered provider: Oracle Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a private company. It is registered to provide care for up to two children who may have experienced childhood trauma which has led to unmet emotional needs that require specialist care and support.

The manager registered with Ofsted in January 2023.

Inspection dates: 4 and 5 November 2025

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: 2 December 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
02/12/2024	Full	Good
12/10/2023	Full	Good
13/03/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
27/04/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

At the time of this inspection, there was one child living at the home. One child had moved in and one child had moved out since the last inspection.

Children live in a warm, nurturing and homely environment. Photographs of children are displayed around the home adding to a sense of belonging for them. The manager and children have planted fruit trees to represent children who have left. This has been a thoughtful initiative to celebrate children's time living at the home.

Children benefit from warm and trusting relationships with staff. The manager recognises the importance of supporting children to spend quality time with family when it is appropriate to do so. The organisation also provides support to families through in-house therapy. This helps to improve children's relationships with people that matter the most to them. Children seeing this coordinated approach to their care, and that staff are working in their best interests, also helps them invest in the home where they live and the adults that care for them.

Staff provide a wide range of opportunities for children to develop hobbies and interests. Experiences have been provided to children that they might not otherwise have had. One child has been nominated 'Children's Champion' and, as such, they are responsible for advocating on behalf of children across the provider's other homes. This has taught the child valuable life skills such as advocacy, public speaking and is supporting their confidence and self-identity.

Children make good progress in their education. For some, school attendance remains below what would typically be expected. However, given previous barriers and experiences of learning, children's progress has still been positive. Staff are proactive in supporting children's engagement and incentivise attendance and participation by celebrating small improvements. One education professional said, 'It's a great success so far.'

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

Behaviour that puts children at risk has reduced as a result of good-quality care provided to them by staff. There has been a reduction in incidents of being missing from home for one child. When this child was missing from home, staff acted promptly to locate them. This included searching the local area and contacting people the child could be with. When the child returned, staff were nurturing and inquisitive about their whereabouts, which enabled staff to gain valuable information to help prevent future occurrences.

Children understand the complaints procedure and are confident in raising issues and concerns. When children raise matters that they are unhappy with, the manager makes careful consideration to understand children's points of view. Children are provided with

a child-friendly response. This open and safe culture where children feel listened to supports a positive safeguarding culture.

The manager ensures that there are safe procedures for the administration of medication. This reduces the risk of medication errors and ensures that health needs are met consistently and accurately.

When there have been concerns that children may have items in their possession that could cause them harm, staff take proportionate action to ensure the child's safety. On these occasions, room searches are carried out in line with the home's safeguarding procedures. Wherever possible, children are present during the searches so that the process remains transparent and respectful. Following any such incident, staff complete key-work sessions with children to help them understand the reasons for the concern and the potential risks involved.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager is very experienced and takes a child-focused approach. She is supported by a well-qualified and motivated team that shares her enthusiasm and commitment to providing good-quality care to children. Staff feel supported and valued, which helps staff maintain positive morale and have a good level of commitment to their role.

There is active involvement from an in-house therapist, who regularly meets with staff. These meetings provide valuable opportunities to reflect on children's progress, address emerging challenges in managing children's behaviour and deepen staff's understanding of children's trauma and needs. This helps staff to provide children with well-informed care that supports their development.

The manager and leaders advocate strongly for children when they feel decisions are not in the child's best interests. This highlights the passion and commitment they have to ensuring that children are integral to and are heard as part of care planning decisions.

The manager ensures that all staff receive regular supervision sessions and an annual appraisal of their work. These sessions are used to identify new and emerging areas of practice and knowledge. This links into the regular therapeutic input delivered to staff and managers to ensure that all staff are skilled to respond to children's needs and safeguard children effectively.

There are effective monitoring and review systems in place that ensure children's progress and welfare are kept under effective oversight. The manager has a clear understanding of staff's strengths and areas for development, which is informed by regular audits and reflective practice.

No requirements or recommendations have been made.

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: SC066917

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Oracle Care Limited

Registered provider address: Suites 1 & 5, Riverside Business Centre, Foundry Lane, Milford, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 0RN

Responsible individual: Laura Duckers

Registered manager: Suzanne Tucker

Inspector

Chrisoula Contoyianni, Social Care Inspector
Gill Rudkin, Social Care Inspector

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