

SC068664

Registered provider: The Partnership of Care Today

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private provider. It provides care for up to five children who may experience emotional and social difficulties and who may have learning disabilities.

Two children were living in the home at the time of the inspection, and one child was spoken with.

The manager registered with Ofsted in October 2020.

Inspection date: 16 December 2025

Date of last inspection: 28 May 2025

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector has looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection. Children living in the home have differing needs but are settled and making progress. The home has been refurbished and redecorated, creating a warm and welcoming environment. Children contributed to the redecoration, which promotes their sense of ownership and belonging.

One child spoke positively and expressed their enjoyment of living in the home. Both children have trusted staff they can approach to share worries or concerns. This supports their emotional security and wellbeing.

Children are encouraged to take part in activities both in the home and the wider community. One child's attendance at education, after a significant absence, has strengthened, helping them to form peer relationships and make friends. Another child has benefited from joining the cadets and enjoys trips to the cinema and to gaming conventions.

Specialist assessments have been completed to better understand children's holistic needs. Interventions, key-working discussions, and activities are used effectively to meet these needs. Care planning is aligned with assessments to ensure that children receive targeted support.

Managers work collaboratively with professionals and services to support children's moves into and out of the home. On occasions, decisions have been made without full information, which has led to disruption for children already living at the home. This was evident when one child moved in and out of the home in quick succession.

The registered manager demonstrates improved accountability and oversight across the service. The registered manager is accessible and focused on the home, which strengthens leadership. Staff and children benefit from this increased stability and direction.

Team meetings and individual supervision sessions are used to reflect on practice and improve the quality and delivery of care. Staff are supported through a range of initiatives that promote professional development. This enhances the skills and confidence of the workforce.

The home is not currently at full capacity, with space to welcome additional children. Current staffing arrangements ensure that the children currently living in the home are well cared for. Staff recruitment is an ongoing process to support staffing sufficiency and potentially enable more children to move into this home.

The requirements and recommendations made at the last inspection have been met.

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/05/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
02/07/2024	Full	Good
20/09/2023	Full	Good
22/02/2023	Full	Good

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that they work closely with the placing authority to understand the child's relationship history and the impact that the child's arrival may have on the group living in the home. Staff should understand, for each child, what the placing authority has recorded in the relevant plan to inform whether the home can meet the child's needs and manage any risks. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 43, paragraph 8.3)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC068664

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: The Partnership of Care Limited

Registered provider address: 2nd Floor, Lansdowne House, 85 Buxton Road,
Stockport SK2 6LR

Registered manager: Kirsty Aspinall

Inspector

Cath Sikakana, Social Care Inspector

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