

SC377702

Registered provider: Holibrook House Limited

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 six children, who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, there were three children living at the home.

The home registered in October 2008. The manager registered with Ofsted in February 2018.

Inspection dates: 20 and 21 August 2024

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: 21 June 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/06/2023	Full	Good
24/05/2022	Full	Good
20/04/2021	Full	Good
26/02/2020	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children have made steady progress from their individual starting points since living in the home. Children are supported to attend their annual health assessments, CAMHS appointments, opticians, and dentist to ensure their individual physical and emotional health needs are met. Children have developed a positive and trusting relationship with a therapist who visits the children on a weekly basis. The therapist's versatile approach has encouraged children to access the service in creative ways that suit the individual children's needs.

Children have made progress in accessing and attending their education provision. Children have clear aspirations about what they want to do in the future, and this is actively supported and encouraged by staff. There is effective liaison with the virtual school when children require additional support.

Children are helped by a thoughtful and nurturing team of staff who are sensitive and attentive to their needs. The care provided by staff supports the children to develop trusting and positive relationships. This helps the children to feel secure and provides a sense of belonging. Consequently, children share their worries and concerns with staff. The therapist informed the inspector 'it is clear that the therapeutic relationships between children and staff has a significant impact on the progress and well-being of the children'.

Children have comprehensive individualised care plans that seek to address their needs, including ethnicity and identity. Plans are updated monthly so they can capture children's emerging needs. Staff provide detailed reports to the local authority about children's progress. This ensures that the professional network is updated on a regular basis, and children receive the right support and services to ensure their needs are met. Children's case management files are comprehensive. However, the quality of the recording in handover notes is not always consistent.

Children have been helped to develop their independence skills. They cook a meal, keep their bedrooms clean and tidy, do their own washing and help staff with general household tasks. Children are supported to explore a range of leisure activities. Staff encourage the children to develop their interests and actively participate in their community. For example, children are supported to attend boxing, going to the gym, swimming, football, and beauty treatments.

Children get together on a weekly basis to talk to staff about what is important to them. This provides children with an opportunity to contribute to decisions about their menu choices, items they would like in the home, and activities they would like to participate in.

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

Children have individual risk assessments that identify their vulnerabilities and support strategies to reduce risk. Risk assessments are reviewed on a consistent basis and amended to reflect emerging risks and needs. This is an improvement since the last inspection in June 2023.

Children are helped to manage their behaviour by staff who provide clear and appropriate boundaries. Children are supported to develop skills to manage conflict with their peers and to consider the consequences of their actions. Children receive praise and rewards for positive behaviour. This is helping to reduce behaviour that is harmful to themselves and others.

Children benefit from staff who understand the risks associated with child sexual exploitation and being missing from home. Staff are responsive and have developed plans to address the risks and keep children safe. Children have meaningful conversations with staff so they can share their wishes and feelings and to be helped to understand safe and acceptable behaviour. For most children living in the home, missing episodes have reduced. However, when children have gone missing the police referrals do not always capture the child's risk factors accurately. This could result in the children's vulnerabilities not being correctly identified by supporting agencies.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Leaders and managers have been effective in providing consistently good quality help and support to children living in the home. The registered manager has high expectations and aspirations for children. The registered manager works effectively with other agencies to ensure that children's needs are met. This includes advocating for children and ensuring that decisions are in the children's best interests.

The registered manager understands the children's needs, their care plans, and the progress that each child is making. The manager and staff team have created a calm, supportive and homely environment, so children feel cared for and safe.

Staff receive a comprehensive development programme to ensure they meet the needs of children living in the home. This includes specific training to meet children's needs such as child sexual exploitation and criminal exploitation.

Staff receive monthly supervision and weekly clinical reflective sessions with a therapist. The sessions provide opportunities for staff to reflect on their work with children and explore different approaches that help children to progress. Staff can further develop their skills by taking on responsibility for specific tasks such as health and safety.

The registered manager is visible and accessible in the home. Staff said that leaders and managers are approachable and always available to provide support.

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 registered person must maintain records ("case records") for each child which— include the information and documents listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child; are kept up to date; and are signed and dated by the author of each entry. (Regulation 36 (1)(a)(b)(c)) In particular, the staff handover notes should be written on the correct form and reflect the shift pattern more accurately; the health and safety checklist should also be completed.	27 September 2024

Information about this inspection

The inspector has 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: SC377702

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Holibrook House Limited

Registered provider address: First Floor, 172 Hoe Street, Walthamstow, London, E17 4QH

Responsible individual: Herman Allen

Registered manager: Julee Aiken-Brown

Inspector

Nicki Shaw, Social Care Inspector

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