

SC386837

Registered provider: New Horizons (Stockport) Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is a privately run children's home, providing care for up to two children with social and emotional difficulties. Two children were living in the home at the time of the inspection.

The manager registered with Ofsted in 2009.

Inspection date: 15 October 2024

Date of last inspection: 28 May 2024

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.

Since the last inspection, one child has moved out and one child has moved in. Staff were able to provide support to the children during these moves in line with their wishes. Children feel supported and have a positive experience when moving in and out of the home.

Children live in a welcoming environment. Since the last inspection, there has been some refurbishment of the home, including repairs to the roof and further personalisation of the children's bedrooms. These improvements help the children develop a sense of belonging.

Children are supported whenever possible to take safe and appropriate risks, in accordance with their care plans and developmental needs. Staff complete risk management plans for each child, enabling them to identify and understand the risks faced by the children and maintain consistency in protecting them from harm.

There have been instances of children going missing from home. Staff take swift action to ensure that children who are missing return safely, adhering to established missing-from-home protocols. They follow the children to encourage their return.

There is a stable staff team that is committed to achieving positive outcomes for children. Staff report feeling well supported by managers and colleagues, which helps to ensure that children receive consistent care. Supervision sessions and team meetings are used as opportunities for reflection and staff development.

The registered manager has improved her workforce plan, which clearly outlines all training completed by staff and identifies when further training is required. This allows the registered manager to better track the training and development of the staff team.

The building is safe, with suitable fire prevention arrangements, including regular servicing of fire equipment. However, the fire risk assessment does not address the key-type lock on one evacuation point, and staff have not practised evacuation procedures for various scenarios, such as leaving the home using the locked back door. Additionally, one staff member was unaware of the fire extinguisher locations. These issues may hinder staff's ability to ensure children's safe and swift exit in an emergency.

The registered manager is suitably qualified and experienced, and she is implementing better monitoring systems to maintain a comprehensive overview of the home and the progress of the children. The manager has high expectations and

aspirations for the children and leads by example. All requirements and recommendations raised at the last inspection have been met.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/05/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
14/03/2023	Full	Inadequate
13/01/2022	Full	Good
10/03/2020	Full	Good

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 must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
After consultation with the fire and rescue authority, the registered person must— take adequate precautions against the risk of fire, including the provision of suitable fire equipment in the children's home; make arrangements for persons working at the home to receive suitable training in fire prevention; and ensure, by means of fire drills and practices at suitable intervals, that persons working at the home and, so far as reasonably practicable, children are aware of the procedure to be followed in case of fire. (Regulation 25 (1)(a)(c)(d)) The registered person must ensure that they consult with an appropriately qualified and experienced individual to ensure that the fire risk assessment is suitable for the home. They must also ensure that evacuation points with locks are fully risk assessed and that staff are aware of the locations of fire extinguishers.	20 November 2024

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC386837

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: New Horizons (Stockport) Limited

Registered provider address: 154-156 Buxton Road High Lane, Stockport,
Cheshire SK6 8EA

Responsible individual: Bharati Parikh

Registered manager: Amie Evans

Inspector

Jennifer Quest, Social Care Inspector

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