

SC393567

Registered provider: Aspris Children's Services Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private company. It provides care for up to five children aged between nine and 18 years.

The manager registered with Ofsted on 17 October 2022.

Inspection dates: 23 and 24 January 2024

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	outstanding
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	outstanding
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding
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The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

Date of last inspection: 14 March 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
14/03/2023	Full	Good
15/02/2022	Full	Outstanding
03/09/2019	Full	Outstanding
06/06/2018	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

At the time of this inspection, there were three children living in the home. The staff team is dedicated to children and passionate about supporting their individual needs. As a result, children make excellent progress from their starting points.

The quality of relationships between children and staff is exceptional. All three children said that they like living in the home, feel safe and know how to make a complaint. Children who had previously struggled with making connections are now making trusting relationships. Children confide in staff and look to them for support and advice. One child rated the home '10 out of 10'.

Other professionals are extremely positive about the quality of their working relationships with staff. One external professional said that the staff 'are a delight to work with'.

All three children are in full-time education and are achieving well. The relationships between education staff and home staff are positive and collaborative. When children have difficulties in school, staff are highly motivated to support them and advocate on their behalf. One teacher said, 'Children come into school happy and talk about what they have done at home. They are never worried or cross.'

Staff understand each child's health needs extremely well. Processes for administering children's medication are thorough and records are of the highest standard. When children require additional input, staff source specialist support. The staff are tenacious in their efforts to secure the best possible resources for children.

Staff are integral in promoting safe family relationships. Families value the care provided to children by the staff team. Support from staff ensures that family relationships can be safely maintained. One family member said, 'I had reservations about [name of child] going into care, but I am reassured by the care afforded to them in this home.'

Staff value and respect the views of children. Children are always consulted, often in creative and innovative ways. Children either have, or are given the option to have, an external advocate. Children say that they feel heard.

Independence work with children is undertaken to the highest standard. Children have targets which they proactively work towards. Examples include building up free time, learning to travel on public transport, cooking and keeping safe. As a result, children are well equipped for their futures and have positive aspirations.

When children move into or out of the home, plans are comprehensive and child-led. The attention to detail and preparation are exceptional. One external professional

said the staff team was 'attuned to the child's needs', and that there was 'a huge level of commitment to support the child'.

Research-informed practice is embedded throughout the home. The model of care is consistently promoted by the highly skilled staff team. There is continued reflection on how to improve.

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

Safeguarding practice is thorough. Staff take appropriate action when required and records kept are of a high standard. Staff involve other professionals when needed and escalate any concerns.

Staff's understanding of the individual risks that children face is exceptional. Children's risk assessments are routinely updated following any change in their needs. The staff are diligent in ensuring that they have read and understood children's risk assessments.

Creative and innovative tools are used to engage children in sessions around safeguarding. These include detailed presentations, fact sheets and questionnaires. Children are encouraged to recognise and reflect on factors that might put them at risk and work with staff on how best to support them.

Children rarely go missing from the home. However, when they have gone missing, the staff response has been well coordinated and effective.

There have been no incidents when children have harmed themselves. However, any concerns raised around children's emotional well-being are acted on swiftly by the staff. The trusting relationships enable children to discuss sensitive issues with the staff. This openness helps to keep children safe.

Children have clear behaviour support plans which staff diligently follow. Restraint is incredibly rare and only used as a last resort. Appropriate debriefs are held with children and staff and there is excellent management oversight of incidents.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

The registered manager is well organised, highly motivated and passionate about his role in caring for children. He is a great role model for the children and staff team. He has high expectations for what children can achieve. He is a fantastic advocate for children and dedicated to supporting them all to feel safe and happy and to make progress.

The manager has a clear understanding of the progress that children are making. His analysis and tracking of children's progress are exceptional. When children are not making progress, he takes swift action to address this.

The manager provides a supportive environment for his staff team. All staff speak positively about the manager and senior leaders. Morale in the team is very high. One staff member said, 'If something is not quite right, he says how to improve. He is always constructive. He is brilliant, the best person I've ever worked for.'

Supervisions are regular and are of excellent quality. Research-informed practice is embedded in reflective discussions. The model of care used in the home is a golden thread that underpins all the work that is undertaken.

The manager's monitoring of the quality of care provided is exceptional. Evaluations are reflective, constructively critical and child-focused. The quality of recording and attention to detail on children's files are outstanding.

Leaders and managers proactively promote tolerance, equality and diversity. Children learn about different cultures and diversity topics in residents' meetings and individual discussions with staff. There are LGBTQ+ champions in the staff group. Inclusivity is promoted with staff and children. When issues arise, the manager takes all necessary steps to address them.

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: SC393567

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Aspris Children's Services Limited

Registered provider address: The Forge, Church Street West, Woking, Surrey
GU21 6HT

Responsible individual: Helen Llewellyn

Registered manager: Glen Strowbridge

Inspector

Skye Frain, Social Care Inspector

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