

SC395944

Registered provider: Isle of Wight Council

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and operated by the local authority. It is registered to provide care for up to 10 children with learning disabilities and social and emotional difficulties. It provides both short breaks and long stay placements.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since September 2023.

At the time of the inspection, five children were living in the home, and three children were staying for short breaks

Inspection date: 23 March 2026

Date of last inspection: 9 December 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.

Inspectors have 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 full inspection in December 2025, managers have met three of the four requirements raised. The remaining requirement has been restated.

Children benefit from the relaxed atmosphere and nurturing care that staff provide. They learn how to be more independent because staff help them to achieve their goals. One child no longer uses a mechanical seating aids to at mealtimes because staff gradually reduced its use and found ways to help them to sit more comfortably at the table.

Significant improvements have been made to the quality of some areas of the home. Two new sensory rooms have been created, providing interactive and stimulating spaces for children to use. One child has been helped to make choices about the new décor in their bedroom. This has meant that the child has been more settled when using their room.

When physical intervention is used to manage the children's behaviour, this is done in a proportionate way. Managers critically review incidents involving the use of restraint and help staff to find less restrictive measures when needed. As a result, the frequency of restraint has recently reduced significantly.

Staff know childrens risks and support needs extremely well. They know how each child prefers to communicate. For example, new systems have been created to capture childrens views about their experiences following the use of restraint by staff. These systems have been tailored to each childs preferred communication style so that they are as accessible as possible. The helps managers to identify any potential learning, which is then shared with staff and incorporated into childrens care plans.

Staff feel supported by their managers. They work well as a team and say that morale is high. During periods of higher levels of incidents where children have been upset, the frequency of supervisions have been less consistent. Despite this, staff say that managers are accessible to them whenever they need to seek any additional support. Improvements have been made to staff supervision records which focus on improving staff knowledge of important safeguarding information.

Staffing levels have improved significantly. Several new staff are in the process of onboarding and induction. New staff say that their initial training fully prepares them for their roles and that high quality care plans mean they fully understand how best to help each child. At times, short breaks for some children have been impacted by other childrens circumstances. Managers have worked closely with families to rearrange these stays to minimise disruption, while additional short breaks have

been provided for those who have needed them because of the increase in staffing capacity.

The registered manager has improved their monitoring of the quality of care in the home. For example, they now use a training and supervision tracker which gives them better oversight of where more targeted support or additional training may be needed. Additionally, improvements have been made to several upcoming training courses so that they better reflect the care as stated in the homes Statement of Purpose. As a result, the registered manager has a good understanding of the strengths of the home and have clear plans in place to address areas of identified development.

The registered manager is working with the local authority to establish a learning pathway for staff to ensure that they have the skills and training needed to meet the needs of all the children they are registered to provide care for. This work is still in its infancy and training has not been fully embedded into practice. The impact of this is minimised as no new children have moved into the home since the last inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/12/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
11/11/2024	Full	Good
19/03/2024	Full	Good
01/03/2023	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, 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 leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to; lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to each child; (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b)(2)(a)(c)(e)) In particular, the registered person must only accept placements for children where they are satisfied that staff have sufficient skills, training and experience so that the home can respond effectively to the child's assessed needs and deliver care as described in the homes Statement of Purpose This requirement has been restated	15 May 2026

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC395944

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Isle of Wight Council

Registered provider address: County Hall, High Street, NEWPORT, Isle of Wight
PO30 1UD

Responsible individual: Kay Jones

Registered manager: Richard Evans

Inspector

Glen Strowbridge, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2026