

SC396104

Registered provider: Full Circle Care Ltd

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and managed by a private company. The home provides care for up to 6 children of the same gender who may have social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, 6 children were living at the home. Five children spoke with the inspector about their experiences of living in the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in June 2025.

Inspection date: 18 March 2026

Date of last inspection: 7 October 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 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.

Safeguarding practice is strong. Staff understand procedures for reporting concerns, including allegations, episodes of children going missing and risks linked to exploitation. Care planning has improved, with essential documents now received in a timely manner and placement plans reflecting known risks and legal requirements. One child was new to the home on the day of the last inspection. Their move had been managed in a sensitive manner, with staff taking time to understand their needs.

Staff demonstrate a clearer understanding of risk and managers ensure that medical advice is sought and followed when children suffer injuries. Risk assessments are detailed, regularly updated and used effectively to guide staff responses. Children are developing skills in their daily routines and, with staff guidance, are gaining confidence in managing their emotional regulation.

Children's relationships with their families are supported well. Staff help children prepare for family time and reflect with them afterwards. Children's wishes are respected and communication remains child centred and safe. Staff promote positive friendships and encourage children to invite friends to the home for meals or gaming. These relationships have contributed to children's stability.

Health needs are monitored effectively. Children attend routine appointments and staff respond promptly to changes in wellbeing. When children's emotional health fluctuates, staff offer reassurance and seek professional advice. Some children are developing independence skills such as managing medication, travelling independently and preparing meals, which is helping them work towards semi-independence or a return home.

Behaviour is managed calmly and consistently. Staff use clear behaviour support plans, structure and de-escalation techniques to reduce issues. There has been one use of physical intervention. This was well managed and documented and included timely conversations with the child and managerial oversight.

The home is warm, welcoming and well maintained. Children personalise their bedrooms and take pride in shared spaces. They look after the home's tortoises, which gives them a sense of responsibility and belonging.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities that promote their confidence, identity and social development. These include community outings, hobbies, therapeutic sessions and independence tasks. Staff are creative in encouraging children to try new things and have successfully introduced some children to ice skating.

Leadership and management have been strengthened since the last inspection. The manager, who was new at the previous visit, has improved oversight and review

systems, which are becoming embedded. Monitoring is more effective and staff practice is reviewed consistently. However, the workforce development plan is not yet aligned to regulation, and the updated statement of purpose has not been submitted to Ofsted in a timely manner.

Staff describe a positive team culture with strong communication. They receive regular reflective supervision and in-depth team meetings are held that support their ability to care for the children. Annual appraisals are completed, which support their professional development.

Most of the requirements made at the last inspection have been met. One additional requirement and recommendation have been made following this inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/10/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
08/10/2024	Full	Good
22/01/2024	Full	Good
13/09/2022	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(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 the home's workforce provides continuity of care to each child; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(e)(h)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that there are effective monitoring procedures in place to oversee staff practice and address shortfalls in a timely and consistent manner. This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	27 May 2026
The registered person must— keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16 (3)(a)(b))	27 May 2026

Recommendation

- The registered person should have a workforce plan which can fulfil the workforce-related requirements of regulations 16 and 33. This should detail how staff are inducted into the home and successfully fulfil the terms of their probation. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 53, paragraph 10.8)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC396104

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Full Circle Care Ltd

Registered provider address: Unit 4 Lyme Vale Court, Parklands Business Park,
Lyme Drive, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire ST4 6NW

Responsible individual: Kalvinder Bains

Registered manager: Lee Brownhill

Inspector

Colin Jones, Social Care Inspector

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