

SC397293

Monitoring visit

Information about this children's home

The home provides care for children with autism and learning disabilities.

At the time of this inspection, three children were living at the home. One child had recently moved out of the home.

The home has been without a registered manager since April 2025.

Inspection date: 22 October 2025

This monitoring visit

This monitoring visit was undertaken to review progress against four compliance notices set at the previous full inspection. Some progress had been made. However, this progress was insufficient to determine that the provider had met the steps in three of the notices. The provider has complied with the restriction notice in place.

Managers have started to implement some changes in the home, but these are in their infancy and not yet embedded in practice. Management oversight and monitoring across care and related documentation is not consistently completed. While managers have begun to challenge staff practice when required, these conversations are not captured in recordings.

Not all staff have received supervision since the last inspection. Managers have not prioritised supervisions with staff where there are concerns about their practice. Supervision records lack required reflection and challenge about how standards at the home could be improved.

There have been improvements in the daily recording of children's experiences. However, recordings across documentation were inconsistent and meant that handover processes could not be utilised effectively. There was a serious incident where a child attacked their peer at the home causing an injury. Staff did not recognise the seriousness of this incident and so a regulation 40 notification was not submitted to Ofsted as required.

There remains no system in place for recording or tracking children's self-injurious behaviours or understanding triggers for this. Managers and staff cannot therefore understand how bruising or injuries to children are caused or adapt practice to support children to feel calm.

Some progress has been made in ensuring that each child has a plan for their personal care and how these needs can be met with dignity. Staff are proactive to record who has assisted with personal care and to complete body maps to ensure any bruising or injuries can be identified. However, staff are not consistently adhering to agreed plans, particularly that two members of staff should be with children while personal care is undertaken.

Children have been supported to choose how they would like their bedrooms painted and there are plans in place for the home to be redecorated. The large outside garden has been fully refurbished so children now have access to an outside swing and play area. The communal bath remains broken, but managers are planning for this to be replaced.

Staff shared that they are benefiting from recent training and additional support from managers. They feel dynamics between children have improved and they are therefore more confident to support children in the community. There are lovely plans in place for the upcoming school holidays, and it is intended for children to engage in plentiful activities away from the home. It is not yet clear what activities are planned with children during term time.

There has been a focus on developing staff skills and confidence to communicate effectively with children and ascertain their views. Specialist training is in the process of being sought to support this and managers recognise this as an ongoing area in need of improvement.

The requirements set in addition to compliance notices have not been met and so have been restated. An additional requirement under regulation 45 has also been set due to a delay in this report being received at Ofsted.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/02/2025	Full	Good
13/12/2023	Full	Good
21/03/2023	Full	Good
19/05/2021	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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
*The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; help each child to understand how to keep safe; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm; that the effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly.	7 December 2025

(Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(viii)(b)(e)) In particular that it is understood how children have sustained any bruising or injury. That there are clear records kept of any physical intervention used with children. That there is a system for recording and reviewing children's self-injurious behaviours and accidents. That staff understand when a more serious incident has occurred and record these effectively. That managers have oversight to ensure staff compliance with safeguarding procedures in the home.	
*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; 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; understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home; feedback on the experiences of children, including complaints received; 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) (f)(ii)(h)) In particular that there are accountable management arrangements at the home. That managers develop processes to evaluate the quality of care at the home. That staff receive regular and good quality supervision.	7 December 2025
*The health and well-being standard is that— the health and well-being needs of children are met;	7 December 2025

children receive advice, services and support in relation to their health and well-being; children are helped to lead healthy lifestyles. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff help each child to— achieve the health and well-being outcomes that are recorded in the child’s relevant plans; understand the child’s health and well-being needs and the options that are available in relation to the child’s health and well-being, in a way that is appropriate to the child’s age and understanding; understand and develop skills to promote the child’s well-being (Regulation (10)(1)(a)(b)(c)(2)(a)(i)(ii)(iv)) In particular that children have clear plans which detail their health and personal care needs. That clear recordings should be kept of which staff offer this care and how this is experienced by children. That records are kept of how staff monitor and treat children’s injuries. That the manager monitors and reviews triggers to children’s self injurious behaviours.	
The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children’s home’s overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children’s needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— understand and apply the home’s statement of purpose; ensure that staff— understand and apply the home’s statement of purpose;	7 December 2025

protect and promote each child's welfare; treat each child with dignity and respect; provide to children living in the home the physical necessities they need in order to live there comfortably; provide to children personal items that are appropriate for their age and understanding; make decisions about the day-to-day arrangements for each child, in accordance with the child's relevant plans, which give the child an appropriate degree of freedom and choice; ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child; enable each child to participate in the daily life of the home Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b)(2)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii)(vii)(viii)(ix)(c)(i)(ii) In particular steps should be taken to significantly improve the condition of both the home, bedrooms and garden spaces. That children are offered and encouraged to engage with a wide range of activities. That children's preferred communication methods are understood and used to understand the views of children. Staff should have training in children's preferred communication methods.	
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation; an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious; there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; a child protection enquiry involving a child— is instigated; or	7 December 2025

concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e)) In particular that the manager identifies and notifies Ofsted when serious incidents occur at the home.	
The registered person must ensure that an independent person visits the children's home at least once each month. The independent person must provide a copy of the independent person's report to— HMCI; (Regulation 44 (1) and (7) (a)) In particular that an independent visitor report is received by HMCI every month.	7 December 2025
The registered person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children ("a quality of care review") at least once every 6 months. In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating— the quality of care provided for children; the feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided for children. After completing a quality of care review, the registered person must produce a written report about the quality of care review and the actions which the registered person intends to take as a result of the quality of care review ("the quality of care review report"). The registered person must—	7 December 2025

supply to HMCI a copy of the quality of care review report within 28 days of the date on which the quality of care review is completed; and
make a copy of the quality of care review report available on request to a placing authority, if the placing authority is not the parent of a child accommodated in the home.

The system referred to in paragraph (2) must provide for ascertaining and considering the opinions of children, their parents, placing authorities and staff. (Regulation 45 (1)(2)(a)(b)(c)(3)(4)(a)(b) and (5))

In particular that there is a suitable monitoring system in place and that reports are completed at least every 6 months and sent to HMCI within 28 days.

*These requirements are subject of a compliance notice.

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC397293

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Responsible individual: Sharon Green

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Louise Copping, social care inspector

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