

SC407787

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 and run by a private organisation. It is registered to provide care for up to six children.

At the time of the inspection, three children were living at the home.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since October 2019.

Inspection dates: 22 and 23 February and 23 March 2023

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: 3 August 2021

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
03/08/2021	Full	Good
18/02/2020	Interim	Improved effectiveness
09/05/2019	Full	Good
15/05/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Children are looked after by staff who are genuinely committed to teaching them how to build and maintain positive relationships. This makes children feel safe and secure, which enables them to make exceptional progress.

Managers and staff are aspirational for the children and set meaningful goals which are aligned to the targets in children's education, health and care plans. Staff make sure that they notice achievements which may seem small but which are real progress for children. As a result, children experience nurturing care, and this gives them the confidence to work hard to achieve goals which are important to them.

Staff are fully informed about the therapeutic model which is at the centre of the home's ethos. One child in particular has made excellent progress in relation to his emotional well-being as a result of the high-quality care that he has received. The frequency of the child's behavioural incidents has dramatically reduced because he has learned other ways of coping and expressing his feelings. In response to a request by managers for feedback, the child's grandparent said, 'We are delighted to see our grandson become a charming young man with impeccable manners. That has made it possible for him to come and stay overnight at home. We are delighted with the progress he has made as a result of guidance and support from a great caring team.'

Staff understand the importance of predictable structures and routines for children. Children are fully supported to engage and make progress in education, and their achievements are celebrated.

Children are encouraged to explore and develop a sense of their own identity. One child who experiences severe anxiety about leaving the house has received sensitive support from staff and is now a member of two football clubs. This has improved his self-esteem and is helping him to make friendships outside the home.

Staff support children to engage in meaningful discussions about their heritage and identity. Staff have created an environment which expands children's interests and celebrates diversity.

Children's health needs are supported by staff through careful planning and strong communication with external health professionals. Medication administration is safely managed by staff.

Children are supported to express themselves in a way which promotes relationships based on trust and respect. When children struggle to live together harmoniously, staff remain resilient and determined, helping them to find a way to improve their

relationships. Children appreciate the support that they receive from staff and recognise that this is helping them to make progress.

There is a sharp focus on making sure that children are fully prepared for living more independently in the future. As a result of careful support which improved his confidence, a child who recently left the home had developed the skills he needed to prepare for adulthood. Before he left the home, the child successfully moved from school to college, learned how to travel independently and was able to secure a part-time job. Living at this home improves children's life chances.

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

Managers and staff prioritise the safety and well-being of children. They have an excellent awareness of each child's strengths and vulnerabilities. Effective and open communication within the team and with other professionals further underpins the safeguarding culture and promotes children's safety.

In response to a requirement made at the last full inspection, managers have developed a system which creates an extensive overview of incident patterns and trends. Managers use this information to take swift and decisive action to ensure that children are protected from harm. In one example, a child's self-harming behaviour has dramatically reduced due to changes to practice implemented as a result of the robust monitoring of incidents.

Managers make sure that children are aware of their own risk assessments and of the plans in place to reduce risks. Empowering children to have a view about how their own risks are managed contributes to their protection and sense of security.

Children's social workers speak highly of the work carried out to help children become increasingly safe. Children are supported to engage in key-work sessions to address their specific vulnerabilities. Key-work sessions are carefully planned and sensitively delivered.

Due to the positive relationships between children and staff, incidents which require physical restraint are rare. When they do occur, managers carry out a prompt and thorough review with the children and staff involved. They explore what happened and seek to find ways of reducing the risk of incidents reoccurring.

Processes for managing health and safety matters and maintenance tasks at the home are excellent. As a result, repairs are completed in a timely manner and the physical environment is safe and secure.

Safe recruitment practices are understood and implemented by the manager and staff responsible for this area of practice. All necessary checks are in place to ensure that children are protected from unsuitable people working in the home.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

Managers have high standards and are passionate in their efforts to be good role models for the children and the staff. Staff feel valued and respected, which inspires them to give high-quality care to children.

Managers are fully involved in the children's lives. They are very clear about the progress that they are making and give high priority to working closely with other professionals. Feedback from children's social workers is very positive regarding communication and partnership working.

The management team's oversight and scrutiny of the home are extremely thorough. As a result, managers have an exceptionally well-rounded view of the experiences of the children and the impact that the care is having on their outcomes.

Staff access good-quality training, and they receive regular, meaningful supervision sessions. The registered manager creates additional, relevant development opportunities in team meetings. Promoting learning contributes to an ethos of well-informed staff helping children to flourish.

Managers are deeply committed to ensuring that children's views are integral to all decisions. Children are unanimous in their opinion that they could speak to any staff member if they were worried about something, and they are confident that their voice would be heard.

The strong leadership of the home and the quality of care create an environment where staff are proud to work and which children are proud to live in.

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: SC407787

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: Teresa Coxford

Registered manager: Layla Williams

Inspectors

Matt Nicholls, Social Care Inspector

Helen Simmons, Social Care Regulatory Inspection Manager

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