

SC413779

Registered provider: Aspire Child Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is run by a private organisation. The home is registered to provide care for up to two children who may have social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the inspection, one child was living in the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in January 2023.

Inspection dates: 9 and 10 April 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 16 April 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/04/2024	Full	Good
24/04/2023	Full	Good
17/01/2023	Full	Good
17/08/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, one child has moved out of the home to return to live with their family. The child living in the home has lived here for over three years. They enjoy positive relationships with staff and have a strong sense of belonging. The child said, 'The staff are great. Everything is great really. Staff help me in every single way possible.'

The child benefits from carefully planned care that promotes their needs effectively. Staff support the child through periods of instability, they are committed and don't give up on them easily. Staff work with partner agencies effectively to promote stability and positive experiences for the child.

Staff are aware of the child's lived experiences and understand the impact of trauma. They ensure that the child benefits from good help and support through regular therapy. Additionally, the child is also supported by other professionals and specialist services. Staff provide the child with a caring, understanding, and nurturing environment.

Staff support the child to sustain their close relationships with the people who are most important to them. This ensures that the child has regular opportunities to connect socially with their family and friends.

There are effective arrangements to promote the child's health and their physical and emotional well-being. A mental health worker said, 'Staff are always friendly and accommodating. The child has built good relationships with staff and there are always nice interactions.'

Positive Steps are currently supporting the child with their re-integration into education, training or employment. However, staff could do more to occupy the child's free time in the absence of full-time education to rebuild their confidence in education and learning.

The child is an eligible care leaver and has a pathway plan and personal advisor to promote their independence. The personal advisor said, 'Living here has been so helpful for [Name of child] because staff are so good with them and that's why they are progressing.'

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

The child is kept safe and feels safe living at the home. Staff follow clear risk management plans and have a good knowledge and understanding of the child's specific needs and vulnerabilities. This enables staff to keep the child safe from harm.

Risks associated with the child are well known and understood by staff who take appropriate action to protect them. An independent reviewing officer said, 'In terms of

care, we have no concerns. I am in support of them staying here and feel that it's a good placement for them.'

The accommodation provided for the child is physically safe, warm, comfortable and homely. Health and safety matters are addressed effectively. However, there are outstanding repairs. For example, the child's wardrobe is broken and there is a damaged fence panel in the garden.

There have been no complaints, restraints or allegations since the last inspection. Significant incidents are reported to the appropriate agencies to protect the child from harm.

There have been a few occasions, when the child has tested boundaries, and has had to be reported missing from the home by staff. Staff follow clear procedures to locate the child quickly to secure their safe return. Most missing from home episodes are for late returns. There are no concerns with substance misuse, exploitation, or offending. The child benefits from good communication and engagement with staff. The child said, 'My views are listened to.'

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager has good oversight of staff's practice and the day-to-day operations of the home. They have successfully recruited additional staff since the last inspection to ensure that the home is fully resourced. A new team leader said, 'The general energy levels are good, and the staff are very reflective. I sense it's a nice place to work.'

A stable staff team provides the child with consistency and continuity of care. The manager has a good understanding of the child's specific needs and provides the staff team with effective support to ensure there is a consistent approach towards staff meeting the child's specific needs. This ensures there are clear boundaries in place to support the child's progress and positive behaviour.

The manager and staff have formed effective partnerships with a team of dedicated professionals to meet the child's needs and address their vulnerabilities through effective safety planning. This ensures that the child is kept safe from harm. A mental health worker said, 'They [the child] are doing well and its lovely to see. I want the momentum to continue.'

Staff confirm that leaders and managers are always supportive and available. Staff said, 'I am supported with regular training, and supervisions and always get the help and support from my team members and the management.'

Staff benefit from regular team meetings and have reflective supervisions. They benefit from good quality training opportunities to help them meet the specific needs of the child.

The home is visited by an independent person who reviews the quality of the care provided for the child. These visits assist staff, leaders, and managers to understand the strengths and areas for improvement. The manager acts on recommendations made to address shortfalls quickly, to secure improvement. However, the manager's quality of care report has not been completed in line with regulation. This was a requirement at the last inspection and has been restated.

Staff employed are selected and recruited carefully. This ensure that children are protected from unsuitable individuals.

The manager has addressed all but one of the previous requirements from the last inspection.

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 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— 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) (5))	30 May 2025

This requirement was made at the last inspection and is restated.	
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Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the home is well maintained and that any damage is repaired quickly. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9) This relates specifically to the repair or replacement of the garden fence panel and child's bedroom wardrobe.
- The registered person should ensure that when a child is not participating in full-time education, training, or employment that they are supported to regain their confidence in learning and are engaged in structured educational activities. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 28, paragraph 5.15)

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: SC413779

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Aspire Child Care Limited

Registered provider address: 15 Jutland Avenue, ROCHDALE, Lancashire OL11 5DP

Responsible individual: Christine MacKay

Registered manager: David Ryan

Inspector

Anthony Kyem, Social Care Inspector

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