

SC477031

Registered provider: Spark Of Genius North East Llp

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a private company. It provides care for up to 5 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

There were 5 children resident at the time of this inspection. The inspector spoke with 4 of them.

The manager registered with Ofsted in November 2025.

Inspection date: 18 February 2026

Date of last inspection: 27 August 2025

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At these inspections, the inspector(s) evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector has 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.

The inspection took place following a whistleblowing complaint received by Ofsted relating to staff conduct.

Children have warm and trusting relationships with the staff. Staff work hard to get to know and understand the children. They encourage children to express themselves appropriately. This includes children confidently chairing their own meetings and participating in important decisions about their care. Children say that they trust that staff will respond to their wishes and feelings.

The manager takes all allegations seriously and completes thorough and child focused investigations. She uses regular individual supervision sessions and team meetings to share learning from those investigations with staff, and to support reflective discussion. This encourages a learning culture and helps to improve staff practice.

The manager and staff help children to develop a greater awareness of risk and to start to take responsibility for their own safety. This includes supporting children to reflect on and learn from unsafe decisions. There has been a reduction in incidents of children being missing from home and the risk of exploitation for children has reduced. This demonstrates that children are becoming safer over time.

Children's education is a priority. All children are attending education and making progress. One child who was out of education, now attends full time.

Children live in a warm and welcoming home, personalised with photos of them making memories. However, some staff restrict children using the kitchen at set times. This prevents children from having access to all areas of their home.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
27/08/2025	Full	Good
16/04/2024	Full	Good
06/06/2023	Full	Good
08/06/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be 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 registered person must prepare and implement a policy ("the behaviour management policy") which sets out— how appropriate behaviour is to be promoted in the children's home; and the measures of control, discipline and restraint which may be used in relation to children in the home. The registered person must ensure that— the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure. (Regulation 35 (1)(3)(vii)) This requirement is restated as was not considered at this inspection	15 April 2026
The registered person must ensure that— children can access all appropriate areas of the children's home's premises; and any limitation placed on a child's privacy or access to any area of the home's premises— is intended to safeguard each child accommodated in the home; is necessary and proportionate. (Regulation 21(b)(c)(i)(ii))	15 April 2026

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC477031

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Spark of Genius North East Llp

Registered provider address: Dunedin House, Columbia Drive, Thornaby,
Stockton-On-Tees TS17 6BJ

Responsible individual: Mark Proffitt

Registered manager: Lisa Freeman

Inspector

Lisa Gordon, Social Care Inspector

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