

SC482340

Registered provider: Lytham Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is operated by a private company and provides care for one child who may have learning disabilities and social and emotional difficulties.

There was one child living at the home at the time of this inspection. Three children have moved out of the home since the last inspection. Inspectors spoke to 2 children.

The manager registered with Ofsted in October 2024.

Inspection dates: 3 and 4 February 2026

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: 12 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/11/2024	Full	Good
19/09/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
03/03/2020	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
15/05/2019	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children are happy and settled living at the home and are making good progress. They enjoy positive relationships with staff, who speak about them with genuine affection and pride. Staff treat children with dignity and respect. They work closely with interpreters to ensure that children who speak English as an additional language are able to communicate their wishes and feelings. As a result, all children can share their views and feel confident that staff will listen and act on what they say.

Staff support children to maintain relationships with their family and friends, ensuring contact takes place safely. As a result, children enjoy positive and meaningful time with the important people in their lives.

Children's health needs are well met. Staff support them to attend routine health appointments and make specialist referrals when needed. Staff use the trusting relationships they have built with children to help them address sensitive issues or complete treatment plans that they might otherwise have been unable to manage. As a result, children experience improved health outcomes.

Children's education is well supported. When barriers arise, staff advocate strongly for them and work closely with the placing authority and the virtual school. This has contributed to positive outcomes, including improved attendance and children developing aspirations for their future. When children are not in education, staff provide structure and consistently create opportunities for informal learning.

Staff promote children's independence, helping them to build self-esteem. For those children from overseas, their cultural heritage is protected while staff support them to adjust to life in the UK and move on to shared living or semi-independence.

Three children have moved out of the home since the last full inspection. These moves took place in line with the children's wishes and feelings and at a pace that suited them. While their individual needs and risks are appropriately assessed, not all children have been supported to move into the home with the best possible planning in the circumstances and time frames available.

The home environment is warm and welcoming. Children have their own personal space with all the necessary furnishings. However, repairs to damage and wear and tear are incomplete.

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

Children feel safe and their risks are well managed, which has resulted in their risks reducing over time. Staff take appropriate action when children are at risk of harm or exploitation. They work effectively with complex safeguarding teams and the police to

protect children. Clear protocols guide staff practice when a child goes missing from home, and staff respond promptly to locate them and support their safe return. When children return, they are welcomed warmly and offered the opportunity for independent conversations to help them reflect on their experiences and better understand the potential risks.

Staff respond swiftly when they suspect children are at risk of substance misuse or self-harm. They demonstrate consistent safeguarding practice, carrying out room searches, undertaking welfare checks and seeking medical attention when required. The manager ensures that all significant incidents are reported to relevant professionals within the appropriate timescales.

Children's positive behaviours are recognised quickly and are appropriately celebrated. Consequences are rarely used. When they are applied, they are reasonable, proportionate and necessary. Staff discuss these with the child and, where possible, take a restorative approach.

Children rarely make complaints. When they do, the manager takes their concerns seriously and responds promptly. The manager spends time talking with the child to explain what action will be taken.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

There is an experienced manager in post. She speaks warmly about the children and is proud of the progress they are making. She has developed positive relationships with them and demonstrates a strong understanding of their needs. The manager is also a committed advocate for children when services do not meet their needs.

There is a positive ethos in the home, and the manager leads by example. Staff are proud to work at the home and feel well supported. The manager provides regular, practice-related supervision and appraisal. As a result, children are cared for by staff who know them well and offer consistent care that promotes their safety, emotional wellbeing and stability. Clinically trained professionals also provide personalised support to staff, helping them to strengthen their trauma-informed approaches with children.

Staff are suitably trained and qualified. Training is provided to ensure that they have the skills needed to meet the children's specific needs. Team meetings are held regularly and are generally well attended. These meetings are used for information-sharing and often provide opportunities for staff development. They also incorporate research-based practice and therapeutic approaches.

Systems are in place to monitor children's records and incidents, and the manager routinely reviews the quality of care provided. However, these evaluations are not consistently recorded, and some information is not up to date. Consequently, the manager's ability to maintain robust oversight is reduced.

There is a development plan in place that outlines proposed improvements to the building and identifies areas for staff development. However, the plan does not include clear, specific and measurable targets. As a result, it does not fully reflect the manager's vision or demonstrate how continuous improvement will be achieved and monitored over time.

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— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(h)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that incidents are evaluated with scrutiny, taking into consideration any possible learning outcomes or to support the development of staff. The registered person must ensure that children's plans are regularly updated with accurate, up-to-date information to enable the safe and consistent care of each child. The registered person must ensure that all monitoring and review systems contain accurate information about care provided. The registered person must ensure that actions identified to improve the quality of care provided in the home are specific and measurable. The registered person must ensure the workforce development plan identifies any additional staff training required to support the delivery of the home's statement of purpose.	31 March 2026

The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children’s home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that arrangements are in place to— ensure the effective induction of each child into the home. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(i)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that children are supported to move into the home with the best possible planning under the circumstances and time frames available.	31 March 2026
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Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that the home is nurturing and is a supportive environment that meets the needs of their children. In particular, this means completing timely repairs of damage and wear and tear. ('Guide to the Children’s Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)

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: SC482340

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Lytham Care Limited

Registered provider address: 400 Longmoor Lane, Fazakerley, Liverpool L9 9DB

Responsible individual: Danielle Moorby

Registered manager: Christina Wood

Inspector

Samantha Cooper, Social Care Inspector

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