

SC486114

Registered provider: Life Change Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately owned and provides care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in July 2023.

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

Inspection dates: 11 and 12 February 2025

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: 6 February 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/02/2024	Full	Good
05/07/2022	Full	Good
23/11/2021	Full	Good
20/06/2019	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Children make significant progress, enjoy exceptional experiences, and establish very strong bonds with staff. Staff genuinely care about the children and have high aspirations for them. Children experience an extremely warm and supportive environment where they are flourishing.

Staff have developed innovative and creative ways to engage children in learning when they are not attending school. Staff are proactive in encouraging children to have positive routines, and they support educational experiences in the home and the community. These experiences are tailored to children's future aspirations, building self-confidence and supporting their understanding that they can achieve anything.

Staff build supportive relationships with children, which continue when they move on from the home. The manager and staff ensure that children benefit from well-planned transitions into the home.

Children's care plans are well informed by research-led therapeutic models of care and assessment. Meticulous attention to detail ensures that children consistently receive the care and support they need to thrive.

Children's voices are paramount to the running of the home. The manager ensures that the child's voice is captured at every opportunity and actively involves children in their plans to shape practice in the future. Children's views are gathered through various creative methods to ensure that the process remains easy and comfortable for them.

Children know how to make complaints. When needed, children are supported to share their views with external professionals. Children say that they are listened to by the adults caring for them.

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

Safeguarding is a priority for the home. Staff and managers are highly trained to identify and respond to risks. Staff are acutely aware of how to raise concerns, and levels of incidents in the home have significantly reduced. There is a team approach to managing risk, and staff intrinsically identify small changes to behaviour to pre-empt and prevent incidents.

Proactive and responsive planning contributes to the management of risk in the home. Comprehensive risk assessments and support plans assist staff in caring for children and ensuring their safety. Plans are reviewed regularly.

Incidents of the children going missing from home have significantly reduced since the last inspection. This is because staff have developed strong relationships with the

children, which has helped to reduce risk-taking behaviours. When children go missing from home, the manager and staff understand their safeguarding responsibilities well. Details of any significant incidents involving the child are shared with the relevant agencies. A commitment to unconditional positive regard means that children receive excellent support from staff who are caring and responsive.

Physical restraint is rarely used in this home. It is used only when necessary and as a last resort to keep children safe.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

Managers have an excellent understanding of children's needs, and they are ambitious for the children in their care. Managers have developed dynamic strategies to ensure that each child receives personalised support that promotes growth and confidence. This creative thinking is aspirational and demonstrates the manager's commitment to meeting children's individual needs.

Children's plans are detailed and clear. Children's records show a very good overview of the child's life and clearly reflect the therapeutic ethos of the home. Staff are skilled at writing in a sensitive, empathetic way that celebrates the positives but does not shy away from the challenges faced by children. This approach helps children to understand their childhood and the sensitive care that they receive.

Staff receive purposeful supervision sessions and appraisals. Supervision sessions support staff to reflect critically on their experiences. Discussions are child centred and strive to continuously improve the support children receive. Appraisals help each staff member's ongoing personal and professional development. Support from managers has resulted in a stable and committed staff team. Staff feel valued and supported.

Management oversight is rigorous, and any issues are promptly identified and acted on. This helps to maintain high standards of care for children.

The home has a stable, consistent staff team, which provides continuity for the children. The manager leads by example and is highly respected by staff. Staff say that they enjoy working at the home.

The manager works exceptionally well with other professionals. She challenges others when needed, while respecting the value of a team approach. Professionals involved with the children are extremely complimentary about the efforts of the manager and staff to support children's needs. One professional said, 'This is the best home I have worked with; they are impressive and are always up to something good with [name of child]. They are proactive in pre-empting any issues, which means [name of child] is really settled.'

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: SC486114

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Life Change Care Limited

Registered provider address: 47 Bedwin Street, Salisbury SP1 3UT

Responsible individual: Post vacant

Registered manager: Megan Wyke

Inspector

Sally Mitchell, Social Care Inspector

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