

# SC020171

Registered provider: Arnfield Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

This home is registered to provide care for up to seven children and young people with social, emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home and the registered school on site are owned and operated by a private provider.

There is a manager in post who is not yet registered with Ofsted.

Due to COVID-19 (coronavirus), at the request of the Secretary of State, we suspended all routine inspections of social care providers on 17 March 2020.

### Inspection dates: 10 to 11 May 2021

<b>Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account</b>	<b>good</b>
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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:** 15 July 2019

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** good

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
15/07/2019	Full	Good
02/05/2018	Full	Good
27/06/2017	Full	Good
12/10/2016	Full	Good

## Inspection judgements

### **Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good**

Children benefit from trusting relationships with the staff team. They experience nurturing care. Positive behaviours are reinforced, achievements are celebrated and aspiration is encouraged.

Children have made progress in their education since moving to the home. Children, some of whom have previously struggled to engage in education, feel a sense of pride and accomplishment in their achievements. The home benefits from an on-site school. Children can begin attending lessons from their first day at the home. This means that they can get back into the routine and rhythm of school life quickly. In addition, through independence work, children are supported to learn essential, practical life skills, such as travelling long distances on a train, that prepare them for moving on from the home.

A strength of this home is how well staff and managers know the children and understand their backgrounds. Children are listened to. Staff value and respect their feedback. Particular attention is given to ensuring that children's views are heard during their annual reviews or meetings with social workers. Staff understand how important family is to children, especially as some children are living a significant distance away from their family home. Children's families regularly visit the home. Children are also supported to make regular trips to their home areas to see loved ones.

Children have improving health because of proactive care by staff. In particular, there is effective partnership working with the local GP surgery. This ensures that children's health needs are prioritised.

Children are encouraged to see themselves as part of the wider community. Some children have part-time jobs, and others attend a local youth club or a gym. Children and staff's heritage and diversity are celebrated. There are regular discussions on current affairs. Recently, International Women's Day was celebrated.

Currently, access to the lounge is not allowed during education hours. This blanket approach is not subject to review and means that children do not always have access to communal areas.

All family members and professionals consulted gave positive feedback about the care children receive. One social worker stated: 'The home has been phenomenal. [The child] has really taken to the environment and the boundaries that are put in place in the home. Staff are very good at communicating. I can't fault them.'

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

Children who were vulnerable to going missing, to sexual and criminal exploitation, and to drug and alcohol misuse have become more settled and safer since moving into the home. Vulnerabilities are well understood because staff work closely with the child and people significant to them. Staff know the triggers for risky behaviour and put plans in place to promote children's safety. Over time, risks reduce for children. This means that children gain more independence. For example, they are trusted to spend free time away from the home.

Missing-from-home incidents reduce over time. Staff are familiar with the home's missing-from-home procedures. Children have the opportunity to speak to someone independent of the home on their return. The local safeguarding police officer said that staff 'are absolutely fantastic', noting that 'Their concern for safeguarding is very high.'

The home is subject to comprehensive health, safety and maintenance checks to ensure that it is a safe environment.

## **The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good**

The home's previous registered manager has moved to a different role within the organisation. There have also been some other changes within the staff team. However, a core group of staff have stayed the same, which helps to promote consistency and stability for children.

Consistency of care has also been promoted because the new manager was the home's previous assistant manager. Both the previous manager and current manager are highly effective in providing good standards of care. All requirements and recommendations from the last inspection have been addressed and changes are embedded in practice.

The manager holds regular team meetings where children's needs and risks are discussed and evaluated. Supervision arrangements enable managers to support staff, identify training needs and monitor the quality of care provided to children. Staff confirm that they are given high levels of support and professional development. They feel valued and share the management team's approach to improving children's experiences and outcomes.

The majority of the staff team are qualified. Others are studying towards the relevant qualification in residential childcare. Staff receive a wide range of training. However, the home's statement of purpose does not give a clear description of staff experience and training.

Complaints are investigated thoroughly. Complainants are kept updated during the process. The senior management team uses complaints and feedback as opportunities to improve practice and the quality of care.

## 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
<p>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; is kept under review and, if necessary, revised; and allows children as much freedom as is possible when balanced against the need to protect them and keep them safe. (Regulation 21 (b)(c)(i-iv))</p> <p>In particular, this relates to the lounge.</p>	1 June 2021

### 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:** SC020171

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** Arnfield Care Limited

**Registered provider address:** Arnfield Tower Activity Centre, Manchester Road, Tintwistle, Glossop, Derbyshire SK13 1NE

**Responsible individual:** Wayne Relf

**Registered manager:** Post vacant

## Inspector

Catherine Honey, Social Care Inspector

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