

2572552

Registered provider: Idem Living Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home provides care for one child. It is operated by a local provider of children's homes.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since November 2021.

Inspection dates: 20 and 21 July 2022

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	requires improvement to be good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	requires improvement to be good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	requires improvement to be good
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The children's home is not yet delivering good help and care for children and young people. However, there are no serious or widespread failures that result in their welfare not being safeguarded or promoted.

Date of last inspection: 6 June 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: inadequate

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/06/2022	Full	Inadequate

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: requires improvement to be good

The child is benefiting from clear routines and boundaries that are now being implemented by the staff. For example, there is now an expectation that the child will eat meals at the table, at set times with the staff, rather than eating alone in her bedroom. These routines and boundaries now offer the child consistency and structure. As a result, she is gaining a feeling of security and safety.

The child now has a comprehensive placement plan that details the aims of her placement, her expected outcomes and how these will be achieved. These plans continue to be developed and do not yet reflect how the child's progress will be measured. The staff are following these plans and now feel confident to give the child fewer choices and less control in the home. However, her views and opinions continue to be valued and listened to.

The child has said she wishes to stay in the home, following many previous moves. There is a strong commitment to the child from the staff, who have high aspirations for her and genuinely care for her. Creative strategies are now being put in place through a nurturing approach by the staff. For example, to reward the child's recent positive behaviour, she has been enabled to buy a pet snake, so that she can learn to care for and be responsible for an animal.

An education plan is in place and the child is showing commitment to her education, following previously lengthy periods of non-attendance at school. The manager is strongly advocating for the child with education professionals to ensure that the child continues to make educational progress following the summer holidays. However, a plan is not yet in place.

The child is receiving therapeutic intervention to help her overcome extensive previous trauma. Professionals comment positively about the support the home is giving the child. Staff are working closely with health professionals to ensure that the child receives the services she needs and continues to make progress.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: requires improvement to be good

Incidents of the child going missing from home are decreasing. However, on one occasion, the child was missing for six days. The staff liaised with safeguarding professionals and the police and showed great professional curiosity, to find out where she was and who she was with and ensure that she returned safely to the home.

Behaviour management plans are now in place to give the staff the guidance and strategies they need to safely manage the very complex needs of the child. A

deprivation of liberty order is in place. The staff are confidently following this order to ensure the safety of the child. Any safeguarding incidents have been appropriately referred to the relevant safeguarding professionals.

The staff are successfully building trusting relationships with the child. Since the implementation of clear boundaries and routines, the child's behaviour has improved. There are fewer incidents. The manager is undertaking a monthly evaluation of incidents to inform behaviour management strategies and staff learning. However, this work has just started and is not yet fully embedded.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: requires improvement to be good

Leaders and managers have established a consistent staff team so that the child benefits from consistency and stability. Any staff vacancies are being filled with staff who are known to the child from another home in the group, so that the child is able to build trusting relationships with people that she knows.

Shortfalls found at the previous inspection are detailed in an extensive action plan. For example, an upskilling plan has been put in place to implement staff learning and development. Training needs have been identified for all staff and a plan put in place to ensure that they are equipped with the skills they need to care for the child and support her to make progress.

Staff are benefiting from being regularly supervised. Staff report that there is a positive change in the home and that they are now motivated and clear about their roles and how best to support the child to make progress.

The child reports that she really enjoys living in her home. The home offers the child a homely and well-decorated environment and any damage has been promptly repaired. There are photos of the child and the staff displayed in frames throughout the home, giving the child a sense of belonging.

Leaders and managers are undertaking extensive monitoring. The independent visitor is undertaking monthly themed visits and the manager is completing monthly quality monitoring checks. The registered individual is undertaking weekly monitoring visits to the home to ensure that the child is making progress and the home's action plan is being embedded and implemented effectively.

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 leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that—</p> <p>helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and</p> <p>promotes their welfare.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—</p> <p>lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose;</p> <p>ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child;</p> <p>ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to each child;</p> <p>understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home;</p> <p>demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on—</p> <p>research and developments in relation to the ways in which the needs of children are best met; and</p> <p>use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1) (2)(a)(c)(e)(f)(g)(i)(h))</p> <p>The registered person should ensure that staff have the training and experience to enable them to consistently meet</p>	22 August 2022

<p>the needs of children living in the home, and that learning from incidents is applied across the staff team.</p>	
<p>The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that staff—</p> <p>help each child to achieve the child’s education and training targets, as recorded in the child’s relevant plans;</p> <p>support each child’s learning and development, including helping the child to develop independent study skills and, where appropriate, helping the child to complete independent study;</p> <p>understand the barriers to learning that each child may face and take appropriate action to help the child to overcome any such barriers;</p> <p>help each child to understand the importance and value of education, learning, training and employment;</p> <p>promote opportunities for each child to learn informally;</p> <p>help each child to attend education or training in accordance with the expectations in the child’s relevant plans. (Regulation 8 (1) (2(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(x))</p> <p>Specifically, ensure that the child is supported to engage fully with education. The registered person should ensure that children have an appropriate education provision in place and that staff support them to attend consistently. When children are not in formal education, staff should support them to participate in educational activities and maintain day-to-day routines.</p>	<p>22 August 2022</p>

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: 2572552

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Idem Living Ltd

Registered provider address: 6 Stable Court Business Centre, Water Lane,
Tarbock Green, Prescot L35 1RD

Responsible individual: Julie Wright

Registered manager: Natalie Pink-Hines

Inspector

Tina Maddison, Social Care Inspector

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