

1249035

Registered provider: Your Chapter Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is operated and managed by a private provider. The home is registered to provide care for up to six children with social and emotional difficulties. There are six children currently living in the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted in January 2021.

Inspection dates: 13 and 14 February 2024

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: 14 February 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
14/02/2023	Full	Good
01/02/2022	Full	Good
28/08/2019	Full	Good
22/01/2019	Full	Outstanding

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The home has a comfortable feel. There are many photos of the children displayed around the home. Children have a large communal TV room and a games room. This means they can play games and relax with staff and each other. It has recently been one of the children's birthdays. The home was still decorated with balloons and banners celebrating their special day. This all contributes to an environment that helps children feel welcome and at home.

Children said that they are happy. They like the staff, and they feel listened to. A child said, 'I understand the rules; they keep me safe.' Children feel safe and cared for.

Staff work with children's families to support family time. When in line with plans, staff support children's reunification back to their families. The staff team builds positive relationships with children's families. A social worker said, 'The staff team have been exceptional. They have been supportive, flexible and very child-focused.' This means children can develop their sense of self and identity.

Skilled staff manage children's behaviour well. The stable, experienced staff team ensures that children have clear boundaries. Incentives encourage children to have positive behaviours. This contributes to helping children to learn to make good choices for themselves.

All the children have good school attendance. Communication between the home and school is good. This means that education and care staff understand each child's needs and behaviours. This means children have consistent responses from the adults who care for them.

Staff take the time to understand children's backgrounds, different cultures and religious needs. Children's rights are understood and respected.

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

All children have detailed, individual risk-management plans. The plans are regularly updated, and staff show that they understand children's risks. Staff carry out a significant amount of work with children to help them understand risks. This helps to keep children safe.

Each child has a separate missing-from-home risk-management plan. Records show that, when children go missing from the home, staff respond appropriately. They look for children and work with the wider system of professionals to help to locate them and bring them home safely.

Incidents when children have been at risk of harm are subject to thorough analysis by the manager and the clinical team. This helps staff to understand children's patterns and to introduce strategies that help to reduce future risks. However, when children do not follow boundaries or rules, staff do not always ensure that the consequences are restorative in nature.

Incidents when staff have had to physically hold a child to keep them safe are low. When this has happened, the member of staff and the child have had a debrief with the manager or a member of staff. The low number of holds indicates that behaviour is managed well.

All staff have had extensive training on how to manage children's individual risks. This contributes to intelligent well-thought-out care being offered to children. This provides greater understanding of how to support each child to reduce their risky behaviour.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

An experienced and qualified manager manages the home. The manager is committed and child-focused and promotes the welfare of the children in her care. She has a clear vision for developing the service and is open to new ideas. She has a positive outlook on the influence that she and the staff can have on the children in their care.

The manager ensures that staff have regular supportive supervisions. This means that staff have good opportunities to discuss the children in their care. This benefits the children, as staff can reflect on how they are caring for them.

There is a culture of learning in the home. Staff have the relevant qualification or are training for the relevant qualification. Staff receive training that is specific to the children's needs. This enables them to tailor their care to the children's needs.

Children enjoy consistency of care. This is because staff work very well with each other. They meet as a team each month. In these meetings, they share their experiences and are able to reflect on their care of the children. There are thorough handovers and debriefs when staff change over. A member of staff said, 'We [the staff team] nurture each other as much as the children.'

Children's records are not always written in a way that will be helpful to children if they wish to access their records later in life.

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that consequences for unwanted behaviour are restorative in nature to help children understand the impact of their behaviour, and that they are recorded and age-appropriate to the individual child. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 46, paragraph 9.38)
- The registered person should ensure that any recordings about the children are written in a non-stigmatising way that will be helpful to the child. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

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: 1249035

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Your Chapter Limited

Registered provider address: Hobart House, 3 Oakwater Avenue, Cheadle Royal Business Park, Cheadle SK8 3SR

Responsible individual: Bokani Nyoni-Chaya

Registered manager: Bernadette Perry

Inspector

Cathy Wilkins, Social Care Inspector

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