

# 2770577

Registered provider: Kattz (YH) Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a private company. It provides care for up to four children who experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in February 2024.

### Inspection dates: 23 and 24 April 2024

**Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account**                      **good**

How well children and young people are helped and protected                      good

The effectiveness of leaders and managers                      good

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

**Date of last inspection:** not previously inspected

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** not applicable

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** not applicable

## Inspection judgements

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

One child was living in the home at the time of this inspection. Since the home registered with Ofsted, two children have moved into the home and one child has moved on from the home.

Staff keep children safe and take action to ensure that they are protected. Wider professionals are positive about the care being provided to children.

The child is making progress in their education. If children face challenges or setbacks in education, the home proactively advocates for them. This means that children access education with the support tailored to their needs. Staff also encourage children to persevere with their education.

The child engages in activities they enjoy. They said that they are offered a range of activities. Staff promote and support children to develop age-appropriate independence skills. Children's views are sought through a variety of ways, such as one-to-one sessions and 'you said, we did' sessions. Staff respond well to the children's views, wishes and feelings.

Children receive personalised care. The home is well decorated and has a homely feel. The child has asked for a trampoline for the garden, as this is one of their favourite activities, and this has been ordered.

The child knows who to talk to if they are worried or upset. Positive, warm and nurturing interactions were observed between the children and staff, with lots of laughter throughout the inspection. The child is very comfortable in the company of the team of staff and has built good relationships with them in a short space of time.

Children are supported to stay in touch with people who are important to them. Staff help and support children with family time, which means that they can maintain important family connections.

Feedback from professionals is positive. When asked about the quality of care provided, a professional said, 'I can only say I have been very impressed so far.' Another professional said of the staff, 'Communication is great, and they are very professional.'

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

Staff have completed mandatory safeguarding training. They are confident in their roles of reporting and escalating any child protection concerns. They understand the whistle-blowing policy.

Staff have a good understanding of the children and their risks. They are sensitive in how they approach and support children to identify and understand the risks posed to them. External professionals said that they are happy with how their children are safeguarded and have no concerns. The child also said that they feel safe living in the home.

The children's guide is child-friendly and gives children a sense of what it is like living in the home. The guide also contains details of who children can speak to if they are worried or if they need support outside of the home. Staff go through this with children when they first move into the home, to ensure that they understand the external agencies that are available to them.

When children are involved in incidents, there are plans for follow-up work. This means that children are supported to reflect on their behaviour. Incidents of physical intervention are rare. However, staff are not always debriefed following incidents of physical intervention.

Children rarely go missing from the home. When children do go missing, these incidents are well managed. There has been one allegation against a staff member in the home. This incident was managed and investigated appropriately.

The children are protected by the organisation's safe recruitment practices. Staff are assessed as suitable before any appointment is confirmed. These procedures promote the safety of the children by reducing the risk of unsuitable adults working with them.

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

The registered manager is undertaking their level 5 diploma and is a good role model for staff. They receive support from the responsible individual. Staff describe the managers as 'supportive'. The manager has high expectations of the staff. Staff are happy and fulfilled in their roles. They receive regular supervision and say that they feel listened to. They can discuss any concerns and receive feedback on their performance.

The manager has ensured that staff are provided with training opportunities, including therapeutic training. The manager also carries out regular reflective group meetings and supervision sessions with the team of staff to support their development.

The manager has a process of assessing children before they move into the home. However, on one occasion, the manager did not assess relevant plans for a child to assure themselves that they could meet the child's needs before they moved into the home. Leaders and managers decided they were unable to meet the child's needs after some significant incidents, which resulted in the child's placement ending.

The manager speaks with commitment and dedication about the children. She is ambitious for children and has a good understanding of their needs. They are child-centred and regularly spend quality time with the children. A child said that they would talk to the manager if they had any worries or concerns.

The manager works promptly and effectively with external professionals to support children's needs. Feedback from external professionals is positive about the manager. A professional said, 'The manager is good at working with the team around the child.' Another professional said the manager was 'very quick' in engaging with the local authority to apply for a suitable education provision for a child.

Effective management systems are in place. Records are of a good standard and provide information on the care that is provided to the children. Regular audits take place, and any shortfalls are quickly rectified by the manager.

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

### **Recommendations**

- The registered person should ensure that all incidents of control, discipline and restraint are subject to systems of regular scrutiny to ensure that their use is fair and the principles as set out in 9.35 are respected. In particular, the registered person should ensure that staff are debriefed after each incident of physical intervention. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 46, paragraph 9.36)
- The registered person should only accept placements for children where they are satisfied that the home can respond effectively to the child's assessed needs as recorded in the child's relevant plans and where they have fully considered the impact that the placement will have on the existing group of children. In particular, the registered person should ensure that they review relevant plans and information about children to assess the home's ability to meet children's needs before they move into the home. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 56, paragraph 11.4)

### **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:** 2770577

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

**Registered provider:** Katz (YH) Limited

**Registered provider address:** 51 Station Road, Letchworth SG6 3BQ

**Responsible individual:** Shanice Edwards

**Registered manager:** Yvette Pearson

## **Inspector**

Anver Rose, Social Care Inspector

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