

1240844

Registered provider: Your Chapter Holdings 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 two children who may have social and emotional difficulties and/or learning disabilities.

Inspection dates: 17 and 18 June 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: 16 January 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/01/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
02/10/2023	Full	Inadequate
19/10/2022	Full	Good
30/11/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, two children have moved on from the home. There is currently one child living in the home, who has only been living there for a short period. The inspector observed warm relationships between the child and staff.

The child benefits from living in a warm and homely environment, and they have been able to personalise their bedroom. The child said, 'It doesn't feel like a children's home.' Staff take pride in maintaining the home.

The manager has worked with the placing authority and the virtual school to improve access to education. Home tuition has recently been put in place for the child. This arrangement is in its infancy. However, the child was seen engaging positively with their tutor during the inspection.

Staff ensure that children's individual health needs are well met. Children are supported to attend appointments, such as dental or optician appointments, when needed. Children's emotional health is considered, and staff seek support from specialist agencies where this is required.

Children are supported to spend time with the people who are important to them. Staff understand these often complex family dynamics. The manager and staff have been creative in supporting the child currently living in the home to see their family, and ensure that distance does not impact these important relationships.

The manager and staff listen to children and encourage them to be involved in decisions about their life. Staff respond appropriately to children's wishes and feelings.

The manager recognises the importance of well-considered transitions for children into and out of the home. Although one child only lived at the home for a short period, the rationale for the child moving to the home was clear and the manager completed a thorough review following their move. The child currently living in the home moved in a planned way and staff spent time with the child before they moved into the home.

There have been no complaints since the last inspection. The child living in the home said that they were aware of how to make a complaint should they need to.

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

The staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe, and know children's individual risks and needs. Risk management plans are in place and are regularly updated. These plans also include engagement with the child and their view of their own risks.

Staff work collaboratively with colleagues in the local authority to manage children's risks. When incidents have occurred, leaders and managers have taken appropriate action. Incident records are detailed and have been shared with professionals.

Staff understand and respond appropriately to children's behaviours. There is a strong emphasis on children's positive behaviour being rewarded and, as a result, consequences have not been used since the last inspection.

Incidents of physically holding children are minimal. Restraint is only used as a last resort. When children have been held, the manager has ensured that incidents are thoroughly reviewed. This includes supporting the child to share their feelings in a way that is appropriate for them.

There have been no incidents of children going missing from the home since the last inspection. Staff spoken to have a good understanding of the action they should take in the event that a child goes missing.

Safe recruitment procedures are in place for new staff. This means that children are protected from unsuitable adults being employed to work in the home.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is being managed by an experienced and suitably qualified manager, who also manages another home within the organisation. He has submitted his application to register with Ofsted. The manager puts children at the centre of practice in the home, and he knows them well.

Staff spoken to were positive about working in the home and say that they feel valued and supported by the manager. As a result, children benefit from a consistent and motivated staff team.

Staff receive regular supervision. The staff team benefits from regular team meetings. Meetings encourage staff to reflect on their practice and the work undertaken with children living in the home. Staff's views are valued by the manager.

The manager will challenge professionals if they require further information from the placing authority, or if he feels that they are not acting in the best interests of children. He is a strong advocate for children living in the home.

The home receives monthly visits from an independent person. This supports the manager's understanding of the strengths and areas for development in the home. The review of the quality of care report identified a number of actions to improve the home and there is evidence that progress has been made to complete these actions.

Staff have access to a range of training to support them to undertake their role. Training is prioritised according to the specific individual needs of children. One member of staff requires additional training to support their development.

The manager has improved the quality of children's care and protection since the last inspection and all previous requirements have been met.

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

- The registered person should ensure that staff can access appropriate facilities and resources to support their training needs, and should understand the key role they play in the training and development of staff in the home. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 53, paragraph 10.11)

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: 1240844

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Your Chapter Holdings Limited

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

Responsible individual: Bokani Nyoni-Chaya

Registered manager: Roger Charles

Inspector

Genevieve O'Reilly, Social Care Inspector

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