

2547637

Registered provider: James Kids Home Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run children's home provides medium- to long-term care for up to three children with learning disabilities.

The manager registered with Ofsted in November 2019.

Inspection dates: 9 and 10 May 2023

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: 20 July 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/07/2022	Full	Good
10/05/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The overall quality of care planning and its impact on children's progress and experience are good. Children's individual placement plans are informed by specialist assessments and reports. Specialist support is available to children and their individual needs are monitored and reviewed monthly by multi-agency professionals. This ensures a timely and effective response to emerging need and risk.

Children receive consistent and nurturing care from a stable workforce that has an extensive range of experience and skills. This ensures that children can build trusting and secure relationships with adults who care for them. All staff are suitably trained and qualified to meet the children's needs.

Children are supported by ambitious staff to develop independence skills through creative outcome-focused plans. One child, who arrived at the home with very limited personal care skills, has made significant progress towards independence in this area. This is testament to the skills of the nurturing and aspirational staff, who are passionate about good outcomes for children.

Children are sensitively helped to understand their day-to-day arrangements through individualised weekly planners and plans for school holidays that describe, in picture visuals, a range of activities that children will participate in. As a result, children understand their routines, which reduces the impact of uncertainty.

Children's weekly meetings and key-work sessions provide opportunities for children to influence their plans and decisions about their care, such as recreational activities and menu choices. Children are supported to engage in a wide range of leisure and recreational activities overseen by a dedicated coordinator. This promotes children's social development and community participation.

Children are supported to have family time. However, children's plans need updating to reflect any changes in these arrangements.

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

Children receive effective help and support from staff who clearly understand their needs. Children are protected in the home and have individualised risk assessments that are updated to reflect emerging risk and need. Children are helped to regulate their behaviour through staff providing consistent boundaries, routines and intervention strategies. This reduces uncertainty, anxiety and escalating behaviours that may be harmful.

Children do not go missing from the home. Staff understand children's triggers for behaviour and what is required to de-escalate situations effectively. This avoids the use of physical restraint. There have been no physical restraints since 2021. Staff

understand their child protection roles and responsibilities. They know who they need to speak with should they have any concerns. This includes referrals to the local authority designated officer.

Staff are responsive to children's needs when they supervise family time and will intervene if they identify potential risk to children. Staff seek appropriate consents from parents and local authority social workers for children to access health services when necessary.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Children living at this home are cared for by skilled staff who are passionate about the quality of care that they provide. This is encouraged and supported by an experienced, efficient and skilled manager, who is a strong advocate for the children.

The manager and children's key workers attend a range of multi-agency meetings to share information about the children's needs to inform their plans. This ensures that children receive effective and timely support when needs change.

Children enjoy stability and consistency of care due to the very stable staff team. This promotes trusting and reliable relationships that support children to share their wishes and feelings freely.

The staff induction programme and learning opportunities are comprehensive and ensure that staff are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to care for the children effectively.

Staff are provided with monthly supervision that focuses on children's experiences as well as providing opportunities for staff to reflect on their work and learning needs. Staff receive annual appraisals and career progression is encouraged when staff achieve their Level 3 and Level 5 qualifications.

Robust recruitment processes ensure that only suitable people are employed to work at the home.

Staff provide a welcoming environment. However, the children's lounge and communal areas require some general maintenance to address wear and tear and worn carpets.

Overall, external feedback from professionals about the care provided to children is positive. One professional told the inspector that a child had made significant progress since living at the home, commenting, 'They are very settled and his range of words and verbal communication skills are increasing.' One parent said, 'Everything they do, I'm happy with.'

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the home is a nurturing, supportive and safe environment. In particular, attend to the general wear and tear of the internal walls and worn carpets. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)
- The registered person should ensure that children's placement plans are amended to reflect changes to family-time arrangements. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 58, paragraph 11.15)

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: 2547637

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: James Kids Home Ltd

Responsible individual: Cheryl Carter

Registered manager: Osareme Ikhinmwin

Inspector

Nicki Shaw, His Majesty's Inspector

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