

# 2648446

Registered provider: Dimensions Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private company. It provides care for up to three children who have experienced trauma.

The manager has submitted her application to register with Ofsted and is awaiting her fit person interview.

### Inspection dates: 15 and 16 December 2022

**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:** 17 February 2022

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** good

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
17/02/2022	Full	Good

## Inspection judgements

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

Three children are currently living at the home, and they are settled and happy. Three children have moved from the home since the last inspection. Two of the children left the home due to concerns about their safety linked to escalating risk-taking behaviours. However, staff supported the children to move to their new placements where their needs could be best met.

Staff and managers have continued to provide outreach support for one of the children who has left. This means that the child has an extended support network, which has helped him to quickly settle in his new placement. Staff visit the child weekly and spend quality time with him, which he values and looks forward to.

Partner agencies told the inspector that staff and the manager provide children with wonderful, consistent and therapeutic care, which allows children to feel safe enough to share some of their lived trauma. This is supporting the children to understand and process their lived experiences, and they are flourishing.

All the children are making significant process considering their starting points. For example, all children are engaging with education and are meeting their individual targets. One child is in a good sleep routine, which has enabled her to fully participate and enjoy activities provided for her during the day.

Staff and managers provide children with positive times and some 'wow moment' experiences that they will treasure for a long time. For example, children have gone trick or treating, decorated their Christmas tree, attended music concerts, photoshoots and off-road driving experiences. These experiences have also provided the children with opportunities to spend quality time with staff, which has helped them to build positive relationships with them.

Staff and managers recognise the importance of the children spending quality time with close family and friends. Where appropriate, close family members have visited the children at the home. Staff foster positive relationships between the children and their friends. For example, they arrange play dates and day trips for children with their close friends. This helps children to build their self-esteem and confidence.

The home continues to provide children with a warm and welcoming environment. The children personalise their bedrooms and their personalities are shining through.

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

Staff and the manager know the children very well and have positive relationships with them. The children told the inspector that they are able to speak with staff and ask for support whenever they face difficult or unsafe situations.

Staff follow children's missing-from-care protocols. They promptly alert relevant agencies, such as the police and social workers, conduct local searches and ensure that children have return home interviews. They exercise professional curiosity. When children return home from being missing, they welcome them home, tell them that they are glad that they are safe and talk to them about what happened while they were away. They also check to see if they need help with anything to prevent them from going missing from home in the future. This good practice helps to keep children safe.

When children display risky behaviours, such as self-harm or verbal or physical aggression, staff take time to speak with the children to understand how they can best support them. Children are learning to self-regulate their emotions better.

Staff carry out educational work with children which helps them to know how to keep themselves safe. For example, they have carried out work that is linked to missing from care, internet safety, appropriate relationships, knife crime and criminal exploitation. This has helped the children to understand the potential risks they could face. Consequently, for one child, incidents of them going missing from home and school are reducing.

The manager recently reviewed the safer area report but did not consult partner agencies to ensure that the report includes all up-to-date information about risks in the local area. This does not enable staff and the children to access the community safely.

Safer recruitment processes are thorough and help to ensure that safe adults support and care for the children.

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

The manager has recently been appointed to the post. She is experienced and has sound knowledge. She is child focused and works with staff and partner agencies to provide children with individualised care which meets their complex needs.

The manager's monitoring and reviewing systems are effective. She is fully aware of the strengths of the home and areas for development. She promptly addresses any shortfalls identified. This helps to maintain good standards of care for children.

When the actions of partner agencies fall short of what is expected, the manager exercises professional challenge to ensure that professionals fulfil their obligations to children. This collaborative and confident approach helps children to receive coordinated care and make progress in different aspects of their lives.

Partner agencies say that staff and the managers are passionate, empathetic, understanding and adaptable. They say that staff and managers are focused on providing the children with individualised care which meets their complex needs.

All staff have received relevant training, which enables them to meet the children's diverse needs. Regular team meetings encourage consistency in practice and supportive relationships, which benefits children. Staff receive regular good-quality reflective supervision, which supports them to carry out their roles effectively.

The manager, staff and the children have created a home that is full of laughter and happiness. This has supported the children to develop, have positive experiences and make good progress.

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

### **Recommendation**

- The registered person should review the appropriateness and suitability of the location and premises of the home at least once a year. The review should include the identification of any risks and opportunities presented by the home's location and strategies for managing these. In particular, the registered person should consult with relevant partner agencies to seek up-to-date information. (Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 64, paragraph 15.1)

### **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:** 2648446

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

**Registered provider:** Dimensions Care Limited

**Registered provider address:** Unit 5, Brooklands Place, Brooklands Road, Sale  
M33 3SD

**Responsible individual:** Laura Kudarenko

**Registered manager:** Post vacant

## Inspector

Rumbi Mangoma, Social Care Inspector

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