

1251364

Registered provider: Area Camden Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run home provides care for up to 6 children who may experience social and/or emotional difficulties.

This home registered in May 2017, and the manager registered with Ofsted in November 2025.

At the time of this inspection, there were 4 children living at the home.

Inspection dates: 17 and 18 February 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	outstanding
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	outstanding
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding
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The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

Date of last inspection: 4 June 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: outstanding

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/06/2024	Full	Outstanding
07/06/2023	Full	Good
01/12/2022	Full	Good
09/06/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Children are provided with an exceptional level of care by a friendly and nurturing staff team. Staff have worked very hard to build and maintain trusting relationships with the children. They ensure that comprehensive assessments are carried out before any children move into the home, in conjunction with extensive consultations taking place with professionals, families, previous carers and the children already living in the home. As a result, children settle quickly and are able to develop secure relationships and trust in staff from the outset.

Children live in a well-maintained home. Both children and staff take pride in their environment, ensuring it has a homely and welcoming feel. The home is decorated with children's photos, displaying activities, celebrations of special events and prom memories. Children's bedrooms are thoughtfully decorated in line with their interests and sensory needs. During the inspection, children proudly demonstrated how they clean and decorate their bedrooms as part of developing their independence skills, with minimal staff support. Children said that they love living in this home.

Children's families and social workers highly appreciate the staff's effort in promoting family bonding and supporting the development of positive relationships. Staff go above and beyond to ensure that well-planned family visits take place. A child's previous foster parent stated that staff made them feel like the child's real family and that staff travelled long distances to bring the child to them for visits. Another child's social worker praised the staff's immeasurable effort in caring for the child.

Children receive education, and the importance of education is strongly advocated by staff. Children who have not attended an educational setting in previous placements are now enrolled in suitable educational programmes. This means children attend private tutorials to help them reintegrate into full-time education, and it supports others to complete their final examinations and apply for college placements. Consequently, children enjoy their learning and understand the importance of education in their lives.

Staff highly value the importance of capturing children's views. They use exceptionally well-planned approaches to ensure children's voices are heard. Staff creatively involve children in discussions using playful and child-centred methods, such as house meetings and one-to-one key-work sessions. These protected spaces encourage children to talk about their daily experiences, feelings and wishes. This strengthens their social skills and helps them feel listened to and respected.

Children participate in a variety of activities and enjoy life-enhancing experiences in the community. They are kept positively stimulated and active through attending go-karting, the cinema, shopping, dancing, eating out in restaurants, going to the arcade to play games and experiencing holidays in different parts of the country. Staff capture these experiences in lovely, individualised and well-presented memory books.

Staff hold very high aspirations for children who feel empowered and make significant progress. Individualised independence plans are implemented and completed by children with support from staff. Staff help children learn life skills, take responsibility and develop confidence in line with their age and abilities. They help children to budget, purchase food and cook meals for everyone in the home.

Children experience very positive moves from the home. Some children move successfully to semi-independent homes or to live with their families. Staff visit potential new homes with children to help them view and make informed choices about where they wish to live. Farewell parties and presents are provided, where peers and staff share positive memories and enjoy time together. This brings positive closure and encourages children to maintain ongoing connections with the home.

Staff from a variety of cultural and diverse backgrounds actively encourage and help children to explore their self-identity and respect their peers. One child is being supported by staff to prepare for Ramadan. Plans to support the child to maintain healthy eating and to provide a peaceful space for prayer are in place. This means staff and children embrace and respect each other's differences

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

Leaders and managers embed an exceptionally strong safeguarding culture. This makes children feel nurtured, safe and protected. Children's risk assessments are clear, detailed and reviewed monthly. This ensures that they remain current, genuine, effective and child centred rather than being task-focused for the staff.

Staff have an unwavering commitment to keeping children safe. They work tirelessly and proactively to prevent harm. Children do not go missing from their home. On the rare occasions where a child walks out of the home, staff respond immediately by following and staying alongside the child to encourage them to return safely. Clear protocols guide staff in their response.

Staff respond with compassion and show consistent support for children. The trauma-informed approach staff use helps children manage their emotions safely. This enables the children to feel heard, understood, valued and safe.

Staff support children at times of emotional distress. This empowers children to develop strategies and resilience when they are faced with challenges. As a result, physical intervention is not used. This demonstrates an exceptional standard of care that prioritises trust and emotional development.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

The registered manager is ambitious and has high expectations of staff and the care they provide to children. Through a shared vision and valuing staff, the registered manager supports them to be highly motivated to provide outstanding care for children.

The registered manager works alongside staff and coaches and guides them to ensure consistent practice.

Supervision for all staff is regular, reflective and child focused. Regular staff meetings provide space for the team to share its views on the progress made by children and how to continuously improve practice. The registered manager promotes a culture of openness in which staff confidently consult her and seek her support. Staff said they feel listened to and valued by the leaders and managers in the organisation.

Leaders and managers value staff professional development. Staff are provided with opportunities to learn new skills and professionally develop. New staff receive extensive induction training. Further training is provided to staff in accordance with children's current and developing needs.

Leaders and managers have rigorous recruitment processes in place. They ensure that thorough scrutiny takes place before staff start work. Consequently, children are cared for by staff who are suitably vetted.

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: 1251364

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Area Camden Limited

Registered provider address: Polaris, Malvern View, Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 4AD

Responsible individual: Lina Griniute

Registered manager: Stacey Tudor

Inspectors

Alphie Khumalo, Social Care Inspector
Stella Namakula, Social Care Inspector

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