

1252023

Registered provider: T-Junction Children's Services

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and managed by a private company. It offers care for up to 3 children who have learning disabilities.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since July 2021.

At the time of the inspection, 3 children were living in the home and contributed to the inspection.

Inspection dates: 10 and 11 March 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 29 January 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
29/01/2025	Full	Good
14/06/2023	Full	Good
31/01/2023	Full	Good
25/10/2022	Full	Inadequate

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children make significant progress when measured against their individual starting points. Staff understand children's individual needs well and promote consistent care. Staff help children to develop trusting, positive relationships with adults.

Staff ensure children take part in fantastic opportunities that broaden their experiences and make memories. Staff promote children's participation in new activities and experiences, including opportunities that children have not previously had, such as holidays abroad.

Staff demonstrate an excellent understanding of children's individual communication needs. Staff effectively support children to use communication tools individual to their needs and communication styles. This has helped children become more confident in expressing their wishes, views and feelings and are increasingly able to participate in decisions about their lives and daily routines.

Staff support children to develop independence skills appropriate to their age and stage of development. Staff carefully plan transitions for children who are preparing to move on from the home into independence.

Staff ensure that children's moves out of the home are thoughtful and personalised, ensuring that children feel supported and prepared for the next stage of their lives. Staff use approaches individual to children's communication needs to help them understand and prepare for changes in their care arrangements. This ensures that children are included in planning and feel reassured during periods of transition. Staff maintain strong relationships with children when they move on from the home and go the extra mile to ensure children continue to be supported.

Staff ensure children access education and are supported to make good progress. Staff work effectively with education providers to ensure that children attend and engage in learning. For one child, this has supported their successful transition into mainstream education after several years of specialist education. Where children are not accessing full time education, staff provide structured routines and educational activities within the home and community to maintain learning and stability.

Staff ensure conversations with children are child led and encourage them to explore and express their feelings. These discussions are meaningful and are adapted to each child's communication style, helping children to feel heard, valued and understood.

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

Staff have a good understanding of children's individual risks and vulnerabilities. Staff respond to children's behaviours consistently and in line with their individual support

plans. Children's care and support plans reflect their individual needs and known risks however some plans lack detail around specific strategies that are most effective for individual children.

Staff support children to take risks in a safe and planned way. This helps children build confidence and develop essential life skills while ensuring that potential risks are carefully managed. Staff demonstrate a balanced approach between protecting children and encouraging their personal growth.

Staff help children understand their emotions and how these can influence their behaviour. Staff demonstrate confidence in using de-escalation techniques in response to children's behaviours. Staff take time to talk with children following incidents and help them reflect on their feelings and choices. Staff empower children to use positive behaviour strategies, enabling children to learn safer ways to manage strong emotions and challenging situations.

The manager carefully considers children moving into the home and ensures that admissions are planned and child centred. However, the assessment to consider the needs and risks of children living together does not consider the known risks in detail.

Door alarms are in use in the home on children's bedroom doors. There are currently no review mechanisms in place for monitoring if they are still required or what the rationale for continuing their use is.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Staff report positive, consistent support from leaders and managers. The manager is visible within the home and provides staff with guidance and reassurance when managing children's complex needs.

Internal care planning meetings take place regularly and provide an effective forum for staff to share information and coordinate care and support for children. This approach ensures that children's complex needs are considered carefully and that there is a consistent plan in place to support them.

Staff report that supervision and team meetings are helpful and provide valuable opportunities to reflect on practice. These forums enable staff to discuss children's progress, consider different approaches to support, and share learning as a team. Records of staff supervisions are not sufficiently detailed to demonstrate the depth of discussion and reflective practice that staff share takes place.

Staff benefit from a range of training opportunities individual to children's needs. As a result, staff share having improved knowledge and skills to meet children's complex, individual needs.

Leaders and managers focus on improving staff's confidence in using communication tools relevant to the children's individual needs. This has strengthened staff's ability to

understand and respond to children's communication needs, enabling children to express themselves more effectively and be better understood.

The manager works collaboratively with partner agencies to ensure that children receive coordinated support. The manager is a strong advocate for children and is prepared to challenge other professionals when necessary to ensure children receive the right services and support.

Independent monitoring reports reflect limited triangulation of information, insufficient direct consultation with children, and a lack of consistent feedback from stakeholders.

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that limits on privacy and access may only be put in place to safeguard each child in the home (regulation 21(c)(i)). Any decisions to limit a child's access to any area of the home and any modifications to the environment of the home, must only be made where this is intended to safeguard the child's welfare. All decisions should be informed by a rigorous assessment of that individual child's needs, be properly recorded and be kept under regular review. In particular, ensure there is a system in place to assess and review the appropriateness of bedroom door alarms. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.10)
- The registered person should actively seek independent scrutiny of the home and make best use of information from independent and internal monitoring (including under regulations 44 and 45) to ensure continuous improvement. They are responsible for proactively implementing lessons learned and sustaining good practice. In particular, ensure there is good oversight of all records relating to children to confirm the correct level of detail is recorded. In particular, ensure the quality of monitoring under regulation 44 allows for continued development of good practice. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 55, paragraph 10.24)

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: 1252023

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: T-Junction Children's Services

Registered provider address: 27 The Pastures, Narborough, Leicester LE19 3DS

Responsible individual: Timothy Clare

Registered manager: Susan Bird

Inspector

Chloe Harvey, Social Care Inspector

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