

1255747

Registered provider: Homes2Inspire Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a private company that is owned and operated by a national charity. It is registered to provide care for up to 5 children with emotional and social difficulties.

There were 3 children living at the home at the time of the inspection. All were spoken to.

There has been no registered manager since November 2025. A manager was appointed but has since left. The provider is actively recruiting.

Inspection dates: 24 and 25 February 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: 22 October 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
22/10/2024	Full	Good
07/11/2023	Full	Good
13/09/2022	Full	Good
08/06/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children say they feel safe and happy living in the home. They are able to identify staff they would approach if they felt worried or needed support. They can recognise the progress they are making, with one child saying, 'I am more confident now.' Children say they enjoy living in the home.

Children benefit from well-structured and planned transitions, both when moving in and when leaving the home. Leaders work closely with children and external professionals to ensure transitions are tailored to children's needs. Children receive focused independent-living work that prepares them for the move to semi-independent accommodation. They are supported to develop key life skills, including shopping, cooking and managing everyday tasks essential for adulthood.

Plans for children are detailed and include clear actions and evidence of progress, tailored to each child's individual needs. However, these plans are not consistently updated, which results in conflicting or outdated information remaining on record. This is an area for development.

Staff hold regular conversations with children to support them in their everyday lives. These discussions remain responsive to children's evolving needs, ensuring support is relevant and meaningful. Staff are creative in how they engage children in conversations about important matters. This ensures children are better able to manage day-to-day challenges.

Children's views are gathered on a daily basis, giving them regular opportunities to express how they would like their home to be. When children share their opinions or preferences, staff respond promptly and act on them when it is appropriate. This supports children to feel heard and listened to.

Professionals and family members speak highly of the support provided to the children. They report that children are making good progress and praise staff for their effective communication. Professionals also express confidence that children are kept safe and feel that staff advocate strongly for children.

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

Plans to keep children safe are detailed and tailored to each child. Staff understand current risks and have clear guidance on the strategies they should follow. Children's individual triggers and the support that helps them during vulnerable moments are clearly recorded. Children are encouraged to comment on their own plans, and they say they are happy with the support they receive.

When children make a complaint, their views are taken seriously, and staff respond proactively to resolve the issue. Children are reassured that they are listened to, and they receive written responses from managers outlining the outcome of their complaint and any actions to be taken.

When children raise concerns about staff practice, managers respond by following internal procedures and ensuring that professionals involved with the child, including the local authority designated officer, are kept informed. However, the support offered to children following these concerns is limited. Children are not consistently updated in an age-appropriate way about what is being done to ensure their safety.

When children harm themselves, they actively seek support from adults. Staff respond promptly and effectively. After an incident, staff spend time with children to check how they are feeling and talk things through in a calm and supportive way. Children are also offered further conversations to help them understand their emotions and explore what might help them feel safer in the future.

Staff take appropriate action when children go missing from home. They search local areas and follow each child's individual missing-from-care plan. When children return, staff spend time talking with them to understand their reasons for going missing and to explore what support may help them in the future, to reduce further incidents.

When physical intervention is used by staff, it is proportionate and focused on keeping children safe. Staff support children with care and sensitivity throughout the intervention. After an incident, children are given time and space to talk about how they are feeling and to ensure their wellbeing. There is clear management oversight in place to review the appropriateness of each intervention.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager left the home in November 2025. A new manager was appointed but has since left the home. During this period of change, staff report that the deputy manager has provided consistent leadership and support. One staff member said, '[Name of deputy] has been the person who has kept the home running.'

The frequency of staff supervision has improved since the last inspection. However, the quality of these sessions remains inconsistent, with records not always demonstrating reflective discussions about children's experiences. Although reflective practices are beginning to be introduced, they are not yet fully embedded in everyday practice.

Managers ensure that staff have relevant knowledge to meet the needs of the children they care for. Children's individual needs are considered carefully, and targeted training is provided to help build staff confidence and skills. When shortfalls are identified, learning circles are completed, enabling staff to reflect on incidents and improve their understanding.

Managers have thorough oversight of the home, supported by regular reviews of incidents and ongoing quality audits. In the absence of a registered manager, the responsible individual has maintained oversight to ensure continued monitoring and support in the home.

Staff communicate effectively with the wider professional network around each child. Staff also advocate strongly for children to access the support they need from external agencies to ensure children receive the right help at the right time. Professionals highlight communication as a strength.

Feedback from professionals and families is not consistently recorded. In addition, the point-in-time survey is not routinely completed. As a result, opportunities for the home to learn from feedback and drive improvement are limited.

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

Statutory requirement

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'. The registered person(s) must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; help each child to understand how to keep safe; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)) In particular, the registered person should ensure that children are spoken to after they have shared worries about staff, and their welfare is considered. The registered person should ensure that children are informed about actions being taken when they raise concerns.	24 April 2026

Recommendations

- The registered person should have systems in place so that all staff, including the manager, receive supervision which allows them to reflect on their practice and the needs of the children assigned to their care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.2)
- The registered person should ensure that all staff consistently follow the home's policies and procedures for the benefit of the children in the home's care. In particular, ensure internal plans are updated and consistent with risk assessments relevant to children's current needs. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 51, paragraph 10.20)
- The registered person should work in partnership with relevant people as appropriate to ensure that each child is provided with support to communicate their views, wishes and feelings. The home should enable children to share their views with other services, such as through point-in-time surveys. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 22, paragraph 4.6)

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: 1255747

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Homes2Inspire Limited

Registered provider address: Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury B69 2DG

Responsible individual: Marisse Prior

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Jess Baines, Social Care Inspector
Louisa West, Social Care Inspector

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