

1268535

Registered provider: Horizon Transitional Care Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a small private company. The home provides care for up to 3 children with a range of complex needs and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

The manager is suitably experienced. The manager registered with Ofsted in December 2025.

At the time of the inspection, 3 children were living in the home. The inspector spoke with all of them.

Inspection dates: 26 and 27 January 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: 24 February 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/02/2025	Full	Good
16/10/2023	Full	Good
10/01/2023	Full	Good
07/09/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, no children have moved into or left the home. The 3 children living in the home have been there for a significant period, which demonstrates that they experience stability and consistency in their care.

Staff encourage children to express their views using their preferred methods of communication. These include the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS), Makaton, and signs and symbols. Staff know the children well and are skilled in interpreting their vocal tones, facial expressions and body language to understand each child's wishes. As a result, staff respond effectively to children's needs and feelings.

Staff ensure that children are registered with all relevant health services and advocate strongly on their behalf when further assessments are needed. For example, staff worked closely with health professionals to advocate for the safe reduction of a child's daily medication. As a result, the child is now on a planned reduction and no longer takes the medication every day. This careful advocacy supports children to safely reduce medication where appropriate and has improved the child's quality of sleep.

Professionals unanimously report that staff enthusiastically support children's education and strongly advocate for children to receive learning that meets their individual needs. All three children have 100% attendance. One education professional said, '[Name of child] is liked by all the pupils and the staff in this school, and he has made good progress academically.' Another commented, 'I cannot fault the staff on how well they have supported [Name of child].' This consistent support encourages children to do well and reach their full potential.

The manager and staff understand the importance of promoting children's relationships with the people who matter most to them. Staff go the extra mile by providing transport for children to visit family members who live far away. One parent said, 'Staff are so helpful and will adjust family time if I have any time constraints.' This support enables children to maintain their identity, strengthen family connections, and preserve their sense of belonging.

Children live in a warm, nurturing and homely environment where staff create a strong sense of belonging. The home displays photos of children and their families, and staff personalise bedrooms to reflect each child's interests and preferences. The environment is highly sensory, with thoughtful features that support children's individual sensory needs. This carefully designed setting not only meets children's needs effectively but also helps them feel safe, valued and genuinely at home.

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

Children form strong, trusting relationships with staff. One child said that they feel safe in the home and said, 'All the staff are my favourites.' A parent commented, 'They tell me they are so happy living in this home.' Children feel safe in the home and have confidence in the staff who care for them.

Disclosures and complaints are rare. When they do occur, they are managed effectively. The manager ensures that children are kept safe and protected from harm and provides them with updates on the outcomes. These actions help children feel confident to raise concerns and reinforce their sense of safety.

Staff actively support children to understand their behaviour and use effective strategies to help them remain calm. This approach has been successful, as the home has required only two physical interventions. Following any intervention, staff speak with children to help them reflect on the situation and express their feelings.

Health and safety procedures, including fire safety arrangements, are well established. The home has received a gold award, its highest health and safety grading from the independent organisation. Children take part in regular fire drills and know how to evacuate the home safely in an emergency. This ensures that children live in an environment where high standards of care and safety are consistently maintained.

The home follows robust and safe recruitment practices that ensure the right staff are appointed to meet children's individual needs, in line with the home's statement of purpose. A parent said, 'This is a great place. Whoever is recruiting the staff, they take fantastic care of [Name of child]. They are doing the right thing.'

Staff regularly hold restorative conversations with children to help them understand their routines and to provide opportunities for them to communicate their wishes and feelings. However, on one occasion following an incident, a child was not spoken to. This has the potential to leave children feeling confused, unsupported and less able to understand and manage their emotions

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager is experienced, committed and forward-thinking in his practice. He is supported by a highly capable operations manager. Both know the children well and adopt a consistently child-centred approach. The managers promote a culture of positivity and work effectively to improve the lives of the children they are responsible for. One member of staff said, 'He is a manager that goes above and beyond, and he wants the best outcomes for the children.'

The manager actively supports staff to carry out their roles effectively. He ensures that staff receive a wide range of targeted training to help them meet children's individual needs, including communication strategies and personal care practices. Training is

relevant, responsive and well matched to the needs of the children. This enables staff to apply their learning confidently in practice. One social worker said, 'The staff are absolutely fantastic in the way they care for [Name of child] and provide for his needs.'

Staff receive regular reflective supervision sessions and annual appraisals. These sessions provide opportunities for staff to review their practice, consider the impact of their work and identify areas for development. Clear goal-setting helps staff remain motivated, giving them a sense of purpose and achievement and supporting their ongoing professional growth.

The manager's monitoring and review systems are generally effective. However, they do not always identify gaps promptly. For example, one child's review minutes were missing from their file because they had not been received within the expected timescale. The manager has given assurances that new processes will be implemented immediately to address this shortfall.

Partnership working with external agencies and parents is excellent. Professionals have commended the manager and staff for their effective communication and the high quality of care provided to children. One social worker said, '[Name of child] is really settled and happy there, and I feel the staff care a great deal about his wellbeing.' A parent commented, 'Staff take such good care of [Name of child]. He is treated like a prince. I would not want him to be anywhere else.'

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff communicate appropriately with children following all incidents, ensuring children's views are respected, their emotional wellbeing is supported, and that practice remains child centred and inclusive. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 22, paragraph 4.10)
- The registered person should ensure that their internal monitoring systems are effective, ensuring that all children's review minutes are kept on file. ('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: 1268535

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Horizon Transitional Care Ltd

Registered provider address: 55 Woodfield Avenue, Wolverhampton WV4 4AG

Responsible individual: Pardeep Sharma

Registered manager: Paul Clifford

Inspector

Jas Nahar, Social Care Inspector

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