

2500668

Registered provider: Idem Living Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and operated by a private organisation. It provides care for up to three children who may have learning disabilities.

The manager registered with Ofsted in June 2022.

At the time of the inspection, one child was living in the home.

Inspection dates: 21 and 22 October 2025

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: 26 February 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
26/02/2025	Full	Good
05/12/2023	Full	Good
22/11/2022	Full	Good
25/01/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The home is presented to a good standard. Since the last inspection, improvements have been made. Children's bedrooms and communal areas are personalised. A new extension has given the children additional space.

Since the last inspection, three children have moved out, with two having positive moves onto adult provision after living in the home for several years. One child moved on after a short time as staff could not keep them safe. This was not a positive ending for the child. Leaders and managers have reviewed this child's experiences to identify any shortfalls and learning for themselves.

Children's plans include the use of safety equipment, including harnesses for car travel. However, despite escalation from the manager, plans are not always completed in consultation with families and professionals.

A wide variety of communication methods are used with children, who are supported to actively participate in day-to-day decision-making. Staff know children well and understand their needs. They adopt a total communication approach to their practice. Social stories are used to help the child understand daily routines and any changes within the home. Staff have worked collaboratively with other professionals to support children's communication. Staff recently received advice and guidance about children's individual needs from speech and language therapists. As a result, children's communication improves while living in the home.

Children's family time is promoted by staff, who adopt a flexible approach to planning children's time with family to ensure that it is enjoyable for all. One child recently enjoyed a summer holiday and accesses a range of enjoyable activities in and out of the home.

Children make good progress in education. Education professionals were complimentary about the care and support that staff provide. One said, 'Staff have helped [Name of child] establish good daily routines and understand the importance of allowing them time to process things.'

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

Staff prioritise children's safety. They supervise children in the home and teach them the skills to keep themselves safe at home and in the local community. Staff know children and their risks well. Risk management plans are clear and help staff to understand children's vulnerabilities.

Staff hold children as a last resort and only to prevent them from harming themselves or others. Staff work collaboratively with the provider's positive behaviour support team.

Since the last inspection, there has been an improvement in the recording of restraint. However, further work is required to ensure that there are suitable debriefs between the child and staff following any incidents.

Robust safer recruitment practices are in place. Staff are carefully monitored, and appropriate checks are carried out to ensure that unsuitable people are not recruited. This ensures that children are cared for by adults who can care for them safely.

There are safe and effective medication procedures in place to ensure that the children have the appropriate medication when needed to maintain their emotional well-being.

Leaders and managers respond effectively when children make allegations. They ensure that actions are taken to protect children in line with the home's policies and procedures. However, not all staff demonstrated a good understanding of the role of the local authority designated officer. A recommendation is made to address this.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager is well established in the home and suitably experienced. He has high aspirations for children and is clear in his expectations of staff practice. The manager has good oversight and monitoring systems in place, which identify where improvements can be made.

Feedback from professionals is positive. They say that there is good communication and children have established routines, which support their progress in all aspects of their life, including their toileting.

The home is fully staffed. All staff have the relevant training they need to meet children's needs. The manager understands the importance of training and development to ensure that staff can meet the needs of children. Staff say that they enjoy working in the home and are well supported by the manager. Staff are committed to giving children opportunities to meet their potential.

Monthly team meetings provide a good forum to share information about children's plans and progress. The staff have been able to strengthen and reflect on their practice because of the good-quality support and regular supervision that they receive. The manager ensures that staff receive annual appraisals.

All new staff receive a good-quality induction. They familiarise themselves with policies, procedures and children's case records. New staff are given opportunities to shadow others when they first join the team.

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

Statutory requirements

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 registered person must ensure that— within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes— the name of the child; details of the child's behaviour leading to the use of the measure; the date, time and location of the use of the measure; a description of the measure and its duration; details of any methods used or steps taken to avoid the need to use the measure; the name of the person who used the measure ("the user"), and of any other person present when the measure was used; the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; and a description of any injury to the child or any other person, and any medical treatment administered, as a result of the measure; within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person")— has spoken to the user about the measure; and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and	5 December 2025

within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii)(b)(i)(ii)(c)) Specifically, ensure that all staff and the child complete a debrief following all incidents of restraint and this is done in a timely way. This requirement has been restated.	
The care planning standard is that children— have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that children are admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home’s statement of purpose; that arrangements are in place to— plan for, and help, each child to prepare to leave the home or to move into adult care in a way that is consistent with arrangements agreed with the child’s placing authority; that each child’s relevant plans are followed. (Regulation 14 (1)(b) (2)(a)(b)(iii)(c)) This specifically relates to ensuring that all children have a positive move out of the home, and that all staff follow children’s plans when supporting them. Additionally, ensure that there is a clear plan drawn up in consultation with families and professionals regarding the use of a child’s harness when travelling in a vehicle. This requirement has been restated.	

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that all staff understand the role of the local authority designated officer. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 43, paragraph 9.14)

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: 2500668

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Idem Living Limited

Registered provider address: 6 Stable Court Business Centre, Water Lane, Tarbock Green, Prescot L35 1RD

Responsible individual: Julie Wright

Registered manager: Gareth Tarpey

Inspector

Judith Birchall, Social Care Inspector

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