

2620261

Registered provider: Budwood Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a private organisation. It provides care for up to two children who may have needs associated with emotional and behaviour difficulties. In addition, they may have experienced loss, trauma and abuse.

The manager registered with Ofsted in February 2024.

Inspection date: 12 March 2024

Date of last inspection: 1 August 2023

Judgement at last inspection: Requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At these inspections, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Since the previous inspection, one child has moved out of the home to a supported living arrangement in accordance with his plan and his age. He made very good progress at the home and was carefully prepared and supported for his move by the staff, who continue to support him in his new home.

One child has moved to the home recently and is settling well. However, he is often refusing to get up and go to school and eat at regular meal times, so that he is not yet benefitting from a healthy routine and regular attendance at school. The staff are successfully building relationships with the child, who has a history of being missing from home. Incidents of missing are minimal and the child is learning to keep in touch with the staff when he is out with his friends in the evenings, so that they know who he is with, where he is going and what he is doing.

Children feel safe living at the home. The staff confidently use a contextual safeguarding approach. Safeguarding incidents are minimal and have been appropriately referred to safeguarding professionals. Incidents are comprehensively documented and evaluated by leaders and managers to improve practice and help to ensure the safety of the children.

Risk assessments have improved and are now comprehensive, up to date and regularly reviewed. They give staff the strategies they need to manage identified risks.

The staff report that they are well supervised and supported so that in turn, they can effectively support the children. If there have been any concerns about a staff member's practice this forms part of the supervision session and helps the member of staff concerned to reflect on and improve their practice. Team meetings are reflective and support the staff to reflect on any incidents and ensure that they are fully up to date with any changes to the children's care plans.

Feedback from children is positive. This is a happy home where children feel loved, part of a 'family' and make good progress. One child stated that she is so grateful to the staff, who have supported her to engage with education, manage her own behaviour and enjoy visits to her family.

Children are encouraged to collect memorabilia relating to their time living in the home. There are photos of the children and staff enjoying activities in photo albums

and displayed in frames around the home. This helps the children to develop a sense of belonging.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/08/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
31/10/2022	Full	Good
27/10/2021	Full	Good

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff meet the children's basic needs in the way a good parent would. This particularly relates to ensuring that children are supported to engage in a healthy routine and regularly attend education ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.7)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2620261

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Budwood Limited

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

Responsible individual: Neil Gray

Registered manager: Robert Watson

Inspector

Tina Maddison, social care inspector

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