

2647110

Registered provider: Allesley Childrens Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home provides care for up to three children who may have learning disabilities and other complex health needs.

The manager registered with Ofsted in December 2021 and holds a level 5 qualification.

Inspection dates: 17 and 18 May 2022

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: not applicable

Overall judgement at last inspection: not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
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Not previously inspected		
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Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

This is the home's first inspection since its registration on 14 December 2021. There are two children currently living in the home.

Children are happy in the home and are making good progress. One child told the inspector that they liked living at the home. The children are cared for by staff who are attentive and have a good understanding of their needs. As a result, children flourish and have fun in this home.

Children's moves into the home are well planned. The registered manager works alongside professionals to gain a deeper insight into children needs. Transitions into the home are well thought out and are in line with children's needs. For example, one child who was anxious about moving was able to visit and meet the staff before moving in. This careful planning ensures that children settle and develop a sense of belonging.

One child living at the home has complex communication needs. Staff have worked alongside other professionals, including the child's family support worker, to understanding his needs and learn how to communicate with him. Staff encourage all children to share their views. However, this is not always done in line with the children's communication needs. This means that in some situations children's views are not understood or acted upon.

Both children are attending school and have excellent attendance. The staff work closely with their teachers to ensure that children receive the right support with regard to their education and learning. One teacher described the communication from the staff as excellent and that they are pleased with the progress that the child attending their school has made.

Staff support children to attend all required health appointments. This ensures that children receive the help and support that they need to address their health needs. The staff ensure that children have a varied and healthy diet. For one child who is vegan, staff have researched different recipes to ensure that his dietary needs are met.

Children are offered a range of activities that are both fun and rewarding. Activities include trips to the beach, zoo and a farm. These activities are enjoyed by the children and provide them with a sense of enrichment.

The children are supported to spend time with those that are important to them. Staff work proactively with parents and social workers to promote safe family time. One parent told the inspector that she looks forward to spending time with her son and is pleased with how happy and settled he is at the home.

The home is decorated to a high standard and has a warm and welcoming feel. Children have been supported and encouraged to personalise their own bedrooms. This helps children to invest in the home and develop a sense of belonging.

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

Safeguarding practices in the home are good. The staff understand how to keep children safe. Risk assessments and behavioural support plans are well written and provide staff with clear guidance. This helps to reduce the level of harm to children.

When appropriate, staff encourage children to take part in key-working sessions around specific subject areas. This supports children's understanding of their own vulnerabilities and how to keep safe.

Staff are effective in managing children's behaviours. This is because staff follow the agreed strategies that are in place. There have been no physical interventions because staff are successful at de-escalating children's behaviours.

Children do not go missing from the home. However, staff have a good understanding and knowledge as to how they should respond if a child was to go missing from the home.

All staff are suitably trained in the administration of medication. There are robust procedures in place for the safe storage and administration of medicines. This ensures that children receive their medication in a safe and correct way.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager is appropriately qualified and experienced. The manager knows the children well and is committed to helping them make progress. She is supported by an equally skilled and experienced deputy manager.

Staff say that they are well supported by managers and get advice and help when they need it. Staff receive regular supervision and use these sessions to reflect and consider the needs of children and develop their skills. As a result of this, children receive good-quality care and their needs are better understood.

Staff participate in regular reflective team meetings in which they discuss children's needs and how children are progressing. These discussions develop staff's understanding and ability to meet the children's needs.

All staff have received additional training to equip them with the skills and knowledge to work with children with learning disabilities. Staff say that this training has given them a better insight into the children's behaviours.

Professionals are positive about the home and the support provided to children. A social worker told the inspector that she was impressed with the home and pleased with how receptive the staff were to the needs of her child.

The registered manager has yet to fully embed monitoring and review systems into the home. However, this has not had a detrimental impact on the care the children receive.

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

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that children are consulted regularly on their views about the home's care, to inform and support continued improvement in the quality of care provided. Due consideration should be given to the child's cognitive ability in the development and implementation of any consultation processes. Children should be able to see the results of their views being listened to and acted upon. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 27, paragraph 4.11)
- The registered person should undertake a review that focuses on the quality of the care provided by the home, the experiences of children living there and the impact the care is having on outcomes and improvements for the children. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 64, paragraph 15.2)

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: 2647110

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Allesley Childrens Care Limited

Registered provider address: 3 Marlston Walk, Coventry CV5 9LG

Responsible individual: Clare Alele

Registered manager: Emma Quinn

Inspector

Lydia Isaac, Social Care Inspector

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