

2652468

Registered provider: Budwood Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a private provider and provides care for one child who may experience social or emotional difficulties. The manager has been registered with Ofsted since September 2021. They are a dual registered manager overseeing two homes within the group. The term 'adults' has been used throughout the report to reflect the home's preferred title to describe staff. One child was living at the home during this inspection. They were seen during the inspection.

Inspection dates: 20 and 21 May 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: 17 September 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
17/09/2024	Full	Good
25/07/2023	Full	Good
17/01/2023	Full	Good
25/01/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

One child was living at the home since the last inspection. They have just celebrated one year living in the home. The child was seen during the inspection. They shared that living at the home has been a positive experience for them. They say they feel safe and well looked after. The home is well presented. It is personalised to the tastes of the child, including pictures, fairy lights and artwork.

The adults in the home prioritise the child's voice. They ensure that the child is included in all aspects of their care and planning. The adults ensure that the child's views are heard and listened to by capturing views through formal conversation and feedback and being alert to when the child shares their thoughts and feelings informally through conversations. The child makes choices about their day-to-day life and is being supported to develop independence skills though planning the weekly meals, taking into account the budget, then competing the shopping with the help of the adults. The child is also able to plan holidays. They recently enjoyed a trip to Paris.

The child has strong relationships with the adults in the home. They feel loved and enjoy spending quality time with the adults. They have enjoyed day trips to local beaches, theme parks and the zoo. They also enjoy spending time at home with the adults playing board games and having pamper evenings. This has helped the child feel settled and valued. The child has developed good relationships with the adults. They take pride in knowing the adults well. Milestones for the child and adult are celebrated in the home and are presented in a memory book.

The adults understand the child's health needs and how these impact on them. The child's plan offers clear guidance for how to support them if they become upset. The adults are skilled at recognising how the child is feeling and how to support them to understand their own feelings. The child has been able to access support from external services due to the advocacy and support offered by the adults in the home.

The child has been able to reintegrate into education after an extended period of not attending. The home manager worked particularly hard to find an education provision which could meet the child's needs. This included speaking with potential tutors in depth to ensure they understood and could meet the child's needs.

Professionals who work with the home feel that communication is a particular strength. Professionals note that the home shares information in a timely way so as to ensure that the professionals working with them understand their needs. Family feel that the home keeps the child safe and have been supportive of the relationship between them.

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

Risks are generally well understood and managed. However, on occasion, the adults have not recognised specific risks or how they might affect the child. This meant that not all the appropriate steps were taken to mitigate these risks. Despite this, the child is well supported. The child knows what to expect from the adults, who provide consistent boundaries and care. They understand what is in the child's care plans and usually follow these. Sometimes, the care plans are not up to date. Key-work sessions are meaningful and aimed at helping the child to understand and process her life.

There is a strong emphasis in the home on understanding a child's starting point. When the child is upset, the adults respond in a calm and nurturing way. Using empathy and clear expectations has helped the child to feel secure. As a result, they have made progress in education and are better able to manage their emotions.

The manager ensures that patterns of behaviours are monitored, and addresses worries when they arise. This has included changes to the team and ensuring the child has the option to spend quality time with the adults.

The child stays in touch with the adults when they are out of the home. The adults know what to do when a child goes missing. The child can explore their thoughts and feelings with the adults after an incident. They are developing confidence to share their worries. The focus for behaviours management is support and care.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager has good oversight of the home. She understands the development areas for the team and for the child. The manager presents as reflective and keen to keep learning to improve outcomes for the child.

The manager's passion and compassion for the child who lives in the home is apparent in her team. The manager has built a highly skilled and confident team, who are adept at reflecting on their practice to adapt to the needs of the child and improve outcomes for them. The home is currently fully staffed. The adults say they enjoy working in the home and have an obvious sense of pride in their role. The adults appreciate the training they are given and can discuss in detail the approaches used in the home as outlined in the statement of purpose.

Team meetings are reflective and consider the needs of the child and of the adults well. The manager takes opportunities to discuss and learn with the team to deepen understanding of the child's needs. Team meetings use reports from the psychology team to support this learning and reflection. Attendance at these meetings is good. Actions are tracked through supervision to ensure completion.

During this review period, the manager has become responsible for another home. The manager has found managing two homes to be challenging, but she is confident in her

skills and has developed ways of working across both homes that ensures safety for all those involved. The manager is well supported herself, and she can reach out, as needed, to her managers. Her dedication to bettering outcomes for children remains.

The manager is a strong advocate for the child in the home. The manager is confident in challenging outside agencies in a professional manner and escalating concerns as needed. She also supports and encourages the child to do this for herself.

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 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. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv))	30 July 2025

Recommendations

The registered person should ensure that incidents are subject to systems of regular scrutiny, in particular when considering whether staff are following children's plans and that plans are up to date. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 46, paragraph 9.36)

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: 2652468

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Budwood Limited

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

Responsible individual: Neil Gray

Registered manager: Kelly Stroud

Inspector

Sally Shakespeare, Social Care Inspector

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