

2652976

Registered provider: Bright Futures Care Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and managed by a private company. It is registered to provide care for up to five children who have learning disabilities and sensory impairments.

At the time of this inspection, there were five children living here. The inspector spent time with all children.

The manager registered with Ofsted in January 2023.

Inspection dates: 28 and 29 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: 25 June 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/06/2024	Full	Good
12/09/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
11/10/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children live in a large home that reflects their interests and has lots of toys, games and sensory equipment. Children enjoy spending time with the adults who care for them, as well as the other children they live with. The home has a lovely family-like feel and is frequently filled with the sounds of children laughing. All children have lived here for two years or more, which for one child is the longest they've lived in any one home.

Children are offered a variety of different activities and enjoy days out to places of their choosing. One child who has not been able to cope with attending regular clubs before, now attends gymnastics club every week. One social worker said, 'In holiday times, I have to make sure I let them know when I'm coming ahead of time because they are always out and about, going to different places and trying different things.'

Children continue to make good progress with their communication and independence skills. Staff work with children's schools to identify targets for each child based on their individual needs and complete daily work with them to help them meet these goals. When children reach puberty, staff help them to understand their changing bodies.

Staff prioritise children's relationships with people who are important to them. Staff regularly support children to spend time with their parents and siblings and will collect parents who struggle with transport to ensure that they can still enjoy days out with their child or visit their home. Additionally, staff support children to have regular video calls with people that they care about who live abroad. One mother said,

'They always include my other kids in the activities and make sure that's it's a good day for everyone. They make me feel really at ease. They've gone out of their way to pick me up so I can come to his birthday parties. They include us in everything and make us feel really at home when we come to visit.'

Staff teach children how to take care of their health and hygiene. They encourage children to add more movement into their days and promote a balanced diet. Staff take children to planned and emergency health appointments and seek medical advice when required.

Staff and managers work well with professionals to plan for children as they grow up. However, all children living here are entitled to additional funds to support them with their daily living, which most children have not accessed. This is a missed opportunity to ensure that children have additional resources as they approach their adult years.

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

Children's vulnerabilities have reduced, in part due to the trusting relationships that their carers have built with them. Staff have a good understanding of each child's vulnerabilities and advocate for each child to be provided with the resources they need.

Staff know how each child prefers to be supported, and even very new staff are aware of how to manage risks for different children.

Staff are skilled in de-escalation and are often able to support children to settle when they become distressed. Children are held as a last resort to keep them safe. When this happens, staff record the incident in detail. The registered manager evaluates each incident and identifies learning when practice can be improved.

Many children who live here take multiple daily medications. While medication is usually administered without problems, there have been times when staff have made errors with children's medication. When this has happened, staff have sought medical advice immediately, and notified managers, professionals, and family members of the mistake. Managers review medication errors when they occur, identifying and implementing learning for the individual or the staff team.

Professionals report excellent communication and good joint working with staff and managers in the home. When social workers do not visit children as frequently as they should, managers in the home escalate this to ensure that children are seen by someone independent. One social worker said of the team, 'They're very proactive and pay attention to every little detail. They always let us know what's going on.'

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager is experienced and has the skills to lead this home effectively. Staff feel well supported by the management team and feel able to share new ideas. The registered manager offers praise to staff when they see good work but is equally able to challenge practice to continue improving in the best interests of the children.

The management team supports staff with regular supervisions and team meetings. Staff find these spaces helpful and say that they benefit from the opportunity to reflect with their managers and their team.

There has been a lot of change in the staff team in the last year, but this has primarily been due to career progression opportunities. The registered manager has been proactive in recruitment efforts which has kept staffing numbers stable. When new staff join the team, managers ensure that appropriate checks are completed. This helps to make sure that adults in the home are safe to work with vulnerable children.

Management oversight is strong with clear improvements in the registered manager's analytical approach to reflecting on practice. The registered manager completes regular internal monitoring which helps to identify areas of strength and development in the home. External monitoring provides further support and direction.

Staff are supported to think about their development goals. They receive annual appraisals to identify progress and areas of future development. Staff have access to ongoing training throughout the year. However, the registered manager has not identified training for the team to meet the specific needs of children.

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to The Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards.' The registered person must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on— research and developments in relation to the ways in which the needs of children are best met. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(g)(i)) Specifically, the registered person must ensure that staff are provided with new research and updated training to meet the identified needs of children.	30 July 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that they consistently advocate for children to have access to all the resources they are entitled to, including daily living allowance. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 17 paragraph 3.28)

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: 2652976

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Bright Futures Care Limited

Registered provider address: c/o Bright Futures Care Ltd, Asher House, Barsbank Lane, Lymm WA13 0ED

Responsible individual: Philip Speed

Registered manager: Russell Burton

Inspector

Aislinn Cooper, Social Care Regulatory Inspector

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