

2662998

Registered provider: Manuel Cornwall Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is run by a small private provider. It is registered to provide care for up to 3 children.

At the time of the inspection, 2 children were living at the home. The inspector spent time with both children, and their views are included in the report.

Inspection dates: 11 and 12 February 2026

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: 14 October 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
14/10/2024	Full	Good
27/06/2023	Full	Good
29/11/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
17/05/2022	Full	Inadequate

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children benefit from individualised care and support. Staff spend time with each child, which enables them to develop trusting and secure relationships. As a result, children experience stability in their care arrangements and make sustained progress.

Staff understand the children's needs, including their specific communication needs. Staff use visual aids and symbols with one child effectively. These help the child to make choices about their daily routines and activities, and to express their feelings. The use of a step-by-step plan tailored to the child's preferred communication method has improved their independence with self-care routines, such as showering. From the child's starting point, this progress is exceptional.

Managers prioritise children's learning and maintain effective partnerships with education services to promote positive outcomes for children. Children attend suitable education provisions, and their learning objectives are integrated into their daily care. For example, one child is developing their musical skills, and the home has provided the necessary equipment to help them to practise at home.

Children have access to a range of positive activities, in line with their interests. One child participates in weekly horse-riding lessons, which they said are 'the best thing ever'. Additionally, the child is learning to drive. These opportunities enhance children's life chances.

Children's moves into the home are carefully planned. This helps children to live together safely, and to form positive relationships with one another. One child moved on from the home sooner than planned. Extensive support was implemented by the home, which placed the child's welfare at the centre and promoted a positive ending for them.

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

There are few incidents in the home. When incidents do occur, physical restraint is not used. Staff's responses to children's needs vary, specifically when children are upset or display behaviours that are challenging. At these times, managers often provide support to help children to calm effectively.

Individual risk assessments do not sufficiently address the known risks for each child. They lack clear guidance for staff on how to proceed to ensure that consistent responses are used. Risk management strategies, including to prevent aerosol misuse, are not reviewed regularly. This reduces opportunities to consider how children may be helped to manage these risks in the future.

Following incidents, staff support children to talk about what has happened. This helps to identify any further help that they may need, and to request any specialist interventions that may be needed.

Staff hold important conversations, and use visual tools, to support children's understanding of key matters relevant to their lives. As a result, one child has been helped to develop a greater understanding of healthy and safe relationships.

Managers involved with staff recruitment activities have completed safer recruitment training. However, they did not ensure that a required Disclosure and Barring Service check was received prior to a staff member working in the home. This does not meet safer recruitment expectations that are designed to ensure children's safety.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is managed effectively by two suitably qualified and experienced registered managers. They are informed about children's future care plans to ensure that children receive the support they need to prepare for their futures.

The home is fully staffed by a permanent staff team. This provides stability for children. Managers are taking steps to ensure that staff complete overdue qualifications promptly. Staff benefit from regular supervision sessions and training that focuses on the children's needs. However, supervision records do not demonstrate professional challenge or explore the impact of training on the quality of care.

Children's views are valued. Children are listened to and their views directly inform care-planning arrangements. Generally, records reflect the children's lives and their views. However, records do not always provide clarity about staff's responses to children. This impacts on the review of the quality of care to ensure that continual care improvements are made, specifically when children's needs increase.

Managers work closely with other professionals and the children's family members. They take action and challenge effectively when they are concerned about other agencies not making decisions in the children's best interests, or when support for children is delayed, in line with statutory requirements.

Feedback received during the inspection was overwhelmingly positive. Professionals and family members describe significant progress made by the children as a result of the care provided to them. Additionally, one child used the word 'happy' when they were shown a picture of their home, and another child rated living in the home and the adults caring for them as '10 out of 10'.

The home's environment meets the children's needs. The children's bedrooms are personalised, and framed photos in the home reflect positive experiences, including Christmas traditions that create a sense of belonging for the children. Some minor

repairs that were needed to improve the home environment were completed during the inspection.

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 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— understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(f)) In particular, the registered manager must ensure that staff's responses to children are recorded and reviewed to inform the development of care, specifically when children's needs increase. The registered manager must ensure that children's plans provide clear direction to staff, and that any risk management strategies are reviewed regularly.	12 May 2026
The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. The registered person may only— employ an individual to work at the children's home; or if an individual is employed by a person other than the registered person to work at the home in a position in which the	12 May 2026

individual may have regular contact with children, allow that individual to work at the home,

if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3).

The requirements are that—

full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2.
(Regulation 32 (1) (2)(a)(b) (3)(d))

In particular, the registered person must ensure that a relevant criminal record certificate is obtained prior to any person working at the home.

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: 2662998

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Manuel Cornwall Ltd

Responsible individual: Lilian Wheeler

Registered managers: Natasha Bateman and Anita Penfold

Inspector

Louise Bacon, Social Care Inspector

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