

2724946

Registered provider: Good Foundations 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 organisation. It provides care for up to four children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in June 2023.

Inspection dates: 5 and 6 March 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: 20 February 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/02/2024	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Since the last inspection, two children have moved out of the home and three children have moved in. Children live in a home that is warm and welcoming. Staff build trusting relationships with children and moves in and out of the home are supported well by staff. As a result, children have positive relationships with each other and are making good progress.

Staff provide opportunities for children to pursue their interests and take part in activities of their choice. For example, children attend a variety of activities, such as golf, dance classes and youth groups.

When children are ready to move on from the home, staff support them to develop their independence skills. Children are encouraged to cook, and staff talk to them about different skills to help prepare them for adult life.

Managers and staff promote children's education. Most children attend education in line with their individual plans. When there are barriers to children attending education, the manager and staff work with partner agencies to identify alternative provision or informal learning which could better support the children. For example, staff educate children about life skills in preparation for their adult lives.

Staff support children to attend routine medical appointments. Staff know children's individual medical needs and when they require medication. Children also have access to specialist support, such as child and adolescent mental health services. This ensures that children's health needs are met.

Staff support children to spend time with people who are important to them. They work positively with parents and others to promote meaningful and safe arrangements so children can spend time with their family and friends.

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

Children said they feel safe living in the home. They all said they can speak to staff if they have any concerns about their care or if they were worried about anything.

When risks are identified, staff undertake thorough risk assessments and follow procedures to keep children safe. Staff work closely with relevant agencies to safeguard children.

Staff understand children's risks and vulnerabilities. They talk to children about these and educate them on how to keep safe, for example healthy relationships and internet safety. This helps children understand risk and helps them to make safe and informed choices.

Incidents in the home have reduced. The registered manager escalates concerns with external agencies effectively to consider children's needs and vulnerabilities. This ensures that children are kept safe.

Children's missing-from-care risk assessments do not include all actions that staff need to follow in practice to ensure children return home safely. Some plans do not include details of children's individual needs. However, staff do know what to do in practice to search for children and return them home safely. Recording in plans does not always capture the actions that staff take.

Since the last inspection, there have not been any incidents when staff have had to hold children. The staff use de-escalation techniques which they are trained in to support children's behaviour. Positive behaviour is praised and promoted by staff.

The home's recruitment procedures follow safer recruitment guidance. This ensures only adults who are suitable work with the children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager is suitably experienced and qualified for the role. He is supported by two deputy managers who help to oversee and supervise the staff team. The home consists of a full staff team. Most of the staff have been in post since the last inspection. This provides children with consistency and continuity of care.

Staff say they enjoy working in the home and feel well supported by the management team. The registered manager delegates tasks to members of the staff team to develop their skills. This gives staff a sense of shared ownership.

Staff receive specific training to meet children's individual needs. This enhances the care staff provide for children.

Supervision sessions and team meetings take place regularly. These forums provide an opportunity for staff to reflect on children's care and their practices. Any concerns about staff practice are managed sensitively by leaders and managers.

The registered manager uses monitoring tools to have oversight and develop the quality-of-care staff provide for children. These monitoring tools are robust and consider the children's needs as well as administrative tasks. However, during the inspection, it became apparent that information provided by the independent visitor, who provides external scrutiny of the home, was inaccurate. A recommendation has been made to improve this area.

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 registered person must maintain records ("case records") for each child which— include the information and documents listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child. (Regulation 36 (1)(a))	2 May 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff continually and actively assess the risks to each child and the arrangements in place to protect them when there are concerns about children going missing from home, relevant plans must include details of the steps the home will take to manage the risk. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 42, paragraph 9.5)
- The registered person should actively seek independent scrutiny of the home and make best use of information from independent and internal monitoring (including under regulations 44 and 45) to ensure continuous improvement. This includes ensuring information in the independent visitor's report is accurate and pertinent to the home. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards,' page 55, paragraph 10.24)

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: 2724946

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Good Foundations Limited

Registered provider address: 6 Tower Quays, Tower Road, Birkenhead, Merseyside CH41 1BP

Responsible individual: Andrew Mannix

Registered manager: Adam Ruse

Inspector

Nicola Rutherford, Social Care Inspector

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