

2729264

Registered provider: Bradford Children and Families Trust

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is run by Bradford Children and Families Trust. It provides care for up to five children who experience social and emotional difficulties.

There has been no registered manager at the home since 27 May 2025. The current manager has still to make their application to register with Ofsted.

There were three children living at the home at the time of this inspection.

Inspection dates: 4 and 5 November 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: 5 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
05/11/2024	Full	Good
10/08/2023	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children have positive relationships with staff based on trust and respect. Children feel able to share any worries and receive emotional and practical support from staff who listen without judgement. Staff have regular chats with the children about things that matter to them and work hard to support children to receive the help that they need. One child said that the home was '10 out of 10' and said that they liked each member of staff.

Staff understand and prioritise children's physical health. One child has a health condition that requires additional monitoring and support. Specialist training has been implemented across the staff team and is regularly refreshed. This supports staff to have up-to-date knowledge and skills to care for the child. There is regular contact between staff and the child's designated nurse to ensure their health needs are being met.

Staff work closely and consistently with the child to help them understand and manage their health condition in line with their abilities. The child sometimes struggles to keep on top of their health needs. However, staff make themselves available to help, even when the child is away from the home.

Children go on holidays abroad with staff and make long-lasting, positive memories. Staff also support children to engage in a range of activities. These aid their overall development, such as swimming, diving and playing football.

Several children have been supported to move out of the home in a planned way, which has been in their best interests and aligned with their wishes and feelings. Many of these moves have been positive and resulted in reunifications to family members. Some children have returned to live with their family before this had been agreed by their social worker. In these situations, staff consistently encourage children to return home. Regular welfare checks are completed to ensure the child's safety.

The manager and staff have strong relationships with children's families and communicate regularly to ensure that they are included in the children's plans. The manager has supported one parent, alongside other professionals, to obtain suitable housing and learn additional parenting skills, which will support the child in the long-term. Outreach support is offered to children and their families for a period of time after the children have left the home. This promotes stability and security for the children.

Family members speak highly of the support their children receive. One parent said, 'I cannot thank them enough, they are absolutely brilliant, and I don't know where I would be without this home. They are the reason my child is coming home to me.'

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

When a child goes missing from the home, staff search extensively, including going out in the middle of the night alongside the police. Staff gather information and go to great lengths to ensure that the child is found and returned home safely.

There is a strong multi-agency approach to safeguarding, led by the manager of the home. When there are significant concerns about a child, the manager acts quickly to meet with professionals to share information and make plans to protect the child. The manager continues to escalate her concerns. This action helps to reduce the risk of harm to children.

However, there have been some occasions when staff have not acted quickly enough to reduce the risk of harm to children. This includes delays in removing hazardous items from a child's possession. Children did not come to harm on these occasions, but staff have not acted in accordance with the child's risk assessment.

Staff support children to understand risk and how to manage their own safety in a variety of situations. These discussions are individualised to each child. Staff use their strong relationships with children and talk to children in a sensitive manner. Children are honest with staff and have their voices heard. Professional support is obtained when more specialist support is needed, for example with substance misuse. This helps children to make positive changes with their life choices.

Some of the children's medication has not been appropriately stored in a secure way. However, this issue was rectified by the manager during the inspection.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager has effective oversight of the home. She is present in the home and uses her time to actively engage with children and staff in a meaningful way. This ensures that the manager has a constant understanding of the children's experiences. In addition, the manager completes regular audits of the home and quality assures the work of staff. This supports her to address any shortfalls and improve staff practice.

Staff receive regular, reflective supervision sessions. These provide staff with a dedicated, safe space to discuss the children in detail. Staff explore what is going well and what could be developed further to support children. Staff also value the emotional support that they receive during these sessions and feel that the management team has a strong emphasis on the staff's own emotional well-being.

Staff meetings take place on a weekly basis and are designed in a way to offer all staff the opportunity to attend. This includes the night staff and casual members of staff. This helps to ensure that there is effective communication across the whole staff team so that information is not missed. The children are at the centre of the discussions, which support staff to work together in the best interests of the children.

Professionals speak highly of the staff and management team. They praise their levels of communication, which have supported these professionals to have a good oversight of what is going on in the children's lives. One professional said, 'They have been absolutely amazing; staff really care and are passionate about meeting children's needs.' While another said, ' [Name of child] feels for the first time in their life that someone has their back and are making sure things are right for them.'

The manager has been consistent in submitting quality of care reviews to the regulator within the expected timescales. However, these reviews have lacked evaluation of the care that children receive and have been quite procedural in nature. The reviews also lack feedback from children, which is central to understanding the strengths and areas for development in the home. The manager has not revisited actions from the previous review, which makes it difficult to track progress.

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, The 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 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; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; and that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm. (Regulation 12(1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(b))	1 January 2026
The registered person must complete a review of the quality of care provided for children ("a quality of care review") at least once every 6 months. In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating— the quality of care provided for children; the feedback and opinions of children about the children's home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided for children. (Regulation 45(1) (2)(a)(b)(c))	4 May 2026

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: 2729264

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Bradford Children and Families Trust

Registered provider address: Sir Henry Mitchell House (5th Floor), 4 Manchester Road, Bradford BD5 0QL

Responsible individual: Patsy Burrows

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Ladean Wilson, Social Care Inspector
Laura Roberts, Social Care Inspector

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