

2747049

Registered provider: Axis Residential Care Solutions

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A private provider operates this home, which is registered to provide care for up to 2 children who may have social or emotional difficulties.

The current manager was registered with Ofsted in December 2024 and holds appropriate qualifications for the role.

At the time of this inspection, one child has remained living in the home and spoke with the inspector.

Inspection date: 24 February 2026

Date of last inspection: 6 May 2025

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At these inspections, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector has looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

The home is maintained to a high standard and is suitably decorated throughout. Ongoing renovations to extend the property form part of a well-planned programme of improvements to the ground floor. These developments are focused on enhancing the communal spaces to provide the child with a nurturing and comfortable environment that promotes their wellbeing. The manager regularly reviews any potential disruption to the child's care, and planning remains responsive to ensure that their needs are consistently met.

The child is provided with a wide range of experiences that are carefully tailored to meet their individual needs and interests. Staff actively and consistently seek the child's views, engaging them in meaningful discussions to identify opportunities to further broaden these experiences. This approach effectively supports the child's social and emotional development. The child spoke positively about the opportunities they have and the support they receive.

Incidents are managed effectively, with staff responding in line with clear procedures. Individualised risk assessments provide staff with clear guidance on how to keep the child safe. When incidents of the child going missing have occurred, staff have consistently followed agreed protocols to ensure that the child is located promptly and safely. Follow-up work takes place to explore the factors that may have contributed to the missing episode, and strategies are implemented to reduce the likelihood of recurrence. The reduction in missing-from-home incidents for the child demonstrates that the home's approach to managing risk is effective.

Leaders and managers respond promptly to concerns about staff practice and take appropriate action to safeguard the child. Where necessary, formal disciplinary procedures are implemented in line with organisational policy. However, the manager failed to notify the regulator of a serious incident when required. This shortfall limits external oversight and scrutiny of how practice concerns are reviewed and addressed.

Staff benefit from regular, good-quality supervision and team meetings, which provide opportunities to reflect on their practice and welfare. However, not all staff are up to date with their mandatory training. The manager's monitoring and review systems do not consistently identify or address gaps in a timely way. This restricts the positive progression of staff development and limits the manager's ability to ensure that all staff have the required knowledge and skills to effectively meet the needs of the child in their care. The manager has developed an action plan to address the outstanding training requirements to ensure that all staff achieve the relevant skills and qualifications necessary to meet the child's needs.

The manager and staff team work effectively in partnership with external professionals and those who are important in the child's life to promote positive outcomes. Feedback shared with the inspector reflected the high quality of communication and the staff team and manager's commitment to the child's progress. This strong, collaborative approach ensures that the child experiences consistent, well-coordinated support that meets their individual needs.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/05/2025	Full	Requires improvement to be good
09/07/2024	Full	Good

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— ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(h)) This specifically relates to the manager's responsibility to maintain a robust system for monitoring and reviewing the quality of records and the completion of staff training that is relevant to their roles.	10 April 2026

Recommendation

- The registered person must notify Ofsted if one of the situations specified in regulation 40(4)(a)-(d) occurs, or if there is an incident relating to the protection, safeguarding or welfare of a child living in the home that the registered person considers to be serious (40(4)(e)). ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 63, paragraph 14.10)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2747049

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Axis Residential Care Solutions

Registered provider address: 15 Heritage Park, Hayes Way, Cannock WS11 7LT

Responsible individual: Kerry Hutchinson

Registered manager: Simon Elgerton

Inspector

Charlotte Tippet, Social Care Inspector

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