

# 2806495

Registered provider: Bluejay Care Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

This privately run children's home provides care for up to three children who have learning disabilities. There are three children currently living in the home and the inspector spent time with all of them.

The registered manager has been in post since June 2025. This is the home's first full inspection since registering with Ofsted in November 2024.

**Inspection dates: 30 September and 1 October 2025**

|                                                                                           |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Overall experiences and progress of children and young people,</b> taking into account | <b>good</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|

|                                                             |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| How well children and young people are helped and protected | good |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------|

|                                           |      |
|-------------------------------------------|------|
| The effectiveness of leaders and managers | good |
|-------------------------------------------|------|

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

**Date of last inspection:** not applicable

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** not applicable

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Not applicable  | Not applicable  | Not applicable       |

## Inspection judgements

### **Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good**

Staff are nurturing and caring towards children, and they speak about them with warmth and pride. Children are developing meaningful relationships with staff because they trust them and enjoy their company. Some children are already closely bonded to staff members, initiating interactions with them and seeking comfort.

Children know that staff are attentive and respond to their needs. They are therefore confident to express themselves through sounds, body language and object referencing. Staff respond in a timely manner to show children that they have been seen and heard. However, staff are not encouraging children to use alternative communication methods as regularly as they should in order to develop their communication skills.

Children are supported to make good progress from their starting points. This includes attending school, learning how to use cutlery, having haircuts, going to the dentist and exercising independence with their hygiene routines. Staff encourage children to participate in hobbies such as football. They also took two children on their first holiday to Wales, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Staff involve children in meal planning in order to promote choice. They look through cookbooks with children and help them to identify meals that they would like to eat throughout the week. However, snacks and meals observed during the inspection were not nutritious enough, which is important given the children's medical needs.

Staff are committed to ensuring that children remain in contact with people who are important to them. They invite families to visit children at the home as well as promoting family time in the community. Staff support parents when they struggle with children's behaviour and help them to increase their confidence around the children.

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

Staff have a good understanding of children's needs, vulnerabilities and risks, and they provide personalised care that takes this into account. For example, staff provide adequate supervision levels to children at home, and in the community, to reduce the likelihood of them accidentally harming themselves or others.

Staff are conscious that children exhibit self-injurious behaviours linked to their sensory needs. Staff intervene using distraction or redirection to help children use safer sensory outlets. In some instances, this is not possible, and staff prevent children from sustaining serious injuries by blocking their contact with hard surfaces.

Physical interventions are rare because staff are skilled at using strategies that help children to self-soothe and calm. This includes promoting sensory activities like blowing bubbles and jumping on the trampoline. Alternatively, staff offer children verbal

reassurance and encourage them to use their bedrooms or the garden for space away from others.

The registered manager and responsible individual take a robust approach to identifying and addressing shortfalls in staff practice. They monitor staff's practice, carry out investigations and consult with the local authority. When necessary, managers suspend staff in order to prioritise the children's well-being and safety.

### **The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good**

The registered manager has well-established relationships with the children, and they are fond of him. One child was beaming with joy when the manager encouraged him to sing along and dance to his favourite song. The manager joined in, which increased the child's happiness. This demonstrated the manager's natural ability to model good practice to the staff team.

The registered manager has a collaborative approach to caring for children. He is committed to consulting with parents and external professionals to develop an in-depth understanding of children's needs. The manager uses their input to devise strategies that help children to make progress and to aid staff's understanding of children's social cues and behaviours.

The responsible individual and registered manager are critically reflective practitioners. They skilfully balance providing staff with support and challenging their practice. They organise bespoke training for staff, for example by having a speech and language therapist visit the home to provide advice about one child's communication needs.

The registered manager has good oversight of the quality of care delivered to children and he understands the home's strengths and areas for development. The home has made good strides since it opened and started caring for children. However, there are some areas that require further attention, such as medication administration records and safer recruitment practices.

## 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        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <p>The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety.</p> <p>The registered person may only—</p> <p>employ an individual to work at the children's home; or</p> <p>if an individual is employed by a person other than the registered person to work at the home in a position in which the individual may have regular contact with children, allow that individual to work at the home,</p> <p>if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3).</p> <p>The requirements are that—</p> <p>full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2.</p> <p>(Regulation 32 (1) (2)(a)(b) (3)(d))</p> <p>In particular, the registered person must ensure that gaps in employment history are explored during the recruitment process.</p> | 1 December 2025 |

### Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff promote children's overall well-being by supporting them to have healthy balanced diets. (Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 33, paragraph 7.2)
- The registered person should ensure that medical administration records are accurate and that any irregularities are explored and accounted for. (Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 35, paragraph 7.15)
- The registered person should ensure that staff help children to learn informally by promoting their use of alternative communication methods. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 29, paragraph 5.18)

## **Information about this inspection**

The inspector has 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:** 2806495

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** Bluejay Care Ltd

**Registered provider address:** 73 Francis Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 8SP

**Responsible individual:** Lena Graham

**Registered manager:** Abdul Amin

### Inspector:

Tara Webb, Social Care Regulatory Inspector

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