

2816100

Registered provider: Hestia Homes for Children

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A private company owns this home. It is registered to provide care for up to seven children with learning disabilities. It is next door to its sister home, and the two homes share a staff team. Two children were living in the home at the time of the inspection.

The manager is registered for both homes. They were registered to manage this home at its registration in December 2024.

Inspection dates: 25 and 26 September 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: not previously inspected

Overall judgement at last inspection: not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection: not applicable

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children develop secure and trusting relationships with the staff at the home.

Staff have a sound understanding of children's communication methods and their preferences. There is a strong commitment to ensuring that children can make choices about how they are cared for and supported. However, there are missed opportunities to capture learning through key-work sessions with children.

Children are given the opportunity to engage in a range of activities, such as cooking and going out to the shops, fast-food restaurants and to farm parks. Children have fun at the home and are encouraged by staff to expand their experiences and make memories. Photo compilations at the home beautifully capture children's joy.

Children's needs are well understood by staff, who are attentive to any changes outside of their usual presentations. Children's anxieties, as communicated through their behaviours, are well documented in incident reports.

Children make progress from their starting points, and targets are set that are meaningful to each child. However, it is unclear how staff support the children to achieve their goals, as they are not broken down into measurable steps. Furthermore, staff are not consistently recording the progress that children make.

Children attend education or are supported to engage in personal tutoring linked to education. Staff advocate strongly for them and attend all meetings in relation to their schooling.

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

Staff have a good understanding of the individual vulnerabilities and needs of each child. They have effective strategies in place to help keep the children safe, and these are clearly set out in the children's individual risk management plans. As a result, children are safeguarded effectively.

When medication errors have occurred, leaders and managers have taken appropriate action to investigate them and to ensure that the risk of further errors is reduced.

Staff are trained well to meet the individual needs of the children living in the home. They are trained in positive behaviour management and make effective use of de-escalation techniques when incidents occur; this has led to a reduction in physical interventions.

Leaders and managers ensure that safer recruitment processes are followed. They are fully aware of their responsibilities to ensure that health and safety processes are implemented. Consequently, children, staff and visitors are protected.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

Leaders and managers are dedicated and have an ambitious vision for children. They lead a team of staff who have high expectations for children's achievements, and they ensure high standards of individualised care. The managers have good oversight of children's day-to-day experiences.

Leaders and managers have comprehensive knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of the home. Managers are supportive and ensure a clear ethos so that children are cared for consistently and in line with the home's statement of purpose.

The management arrangements provide a supportive, collaborative and caring culture for everyone in the home. There is a real sense of teamwork, with strong working relationships between staff, who acknowledge any difficulties and support each other. This provides a stable team for the children.

Staff are given opportunities to develop their skills through training. Leaders and managers have high expectations of staff practice, and they address any poor practice promptly.

Staff receive a thorough induction and training, tailored to meet the specific needs of the children in the home. Additionally, they have regular and evaluative supervision to ensure that they have the skills and support required to continue to meet the children's needs.

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 quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that staff— help each child to develop resilience and skills that prepare the child to return home, to live in a new placement or to live independently as an adult. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(vi)) In particular, ensure the children's plans have clear detail in how their targets are to be met; ensure the staff are recording on to the children's target forms daily and ensure that key-work sessions or their equivalent are recorded by staff.	30 November 2025

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: 2816100

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Hestia Homes for Children

Registered provider address: The Cottage, Emerys Farm, Beckfords, Upper Basildon, Reading RG8 8PB

Responsible individual: Tracey Beales

Registered manager: Samantha Page

Inspector

Jennie Christopher, Social Care Inspector

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