

2679067

Registered provider: Good News Nwk Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately owned. It is registered to provide care for up to four children with learning disabilities.

Three children were living at the home at the time of the inspection.

The home is led by a registered manager.

Inspection dates: 24 to 25 September 2024

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: 10 October 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/10/2023	Full	Good
23/08/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children enjoy living at this home. It is very well presented and maintained. Children's bedrooms are personalised. They are equipped appropriately for the individual needs of each child. One parent said, '[Children's names] are happy and that makes me happy. They are thriving there.'

There are comprehensive care plans for each child. They are reviewed and updated regularly. They clearly address the specific needs of the child and how these will be met. They are written in a positive way that describes the child's personality.

The health needs of the children are well met. Children attend regular appointments with doctors, dentists and opticians. Children eat healthily and take part in activities that involve exercise. There is good and safe practice for the storage and administration of medication. Staff know what the medications are for. The manager has challenged health professionals if medications are not helping a child.

The education and learning for the children are seen as very important. All children attend school full time. Staff help them with reading and communication skills. Staff support the children on their journeys to and from school. There is an effective working relationship between the staff and teachers.

Staff know the children very well. They understand the individual ways the children communicate. For example, noises that non-speaking children use to make choices. There is good use of social stories, pictures, symbols and Makaton.

Staff have regular one-to-one discussions with children. These key-work sessions are well planned and help children learn. They also ensure that children are listened to. The recording of this time includes reflection and management oversight. This helps staff to have a better understanding of the children.

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

Staff understand the safeguarding of children with learning disabilities. Policies and procedures highlight the additional vulnerabilities of the children. This is supported by training in areas specific to the needs of each child.

Children's unwanted behaviours are managed well by staff. There are clearly written plans to help staff know how to respond to children. Early action is taken to prevent situations escalating. These are based on knowing the children well and recognising when a child is upset or angry. As a result, physical intervention is rarely required. The manager helps staff learn from incidents and different ways to approach situations.

There are clear assessments of known and potential risks to children. These are comprehensive owing to the children's additional needs. They help staff to recognise the risk and how to respond. This helps to minimise the impact on children.

Children do not go missing from the home. Staff always care for the children one-to-one. However, there are clear plans and protocols in place for if a child should go missing from the home.

The manager ensures that safe recruitment processes are in place. These are used for all new staff joining the team. This includes staff appointed from overseas.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager has met the requirement and recommendation from the previous inspection.

The manager ensures that new staff receive a thorough induction. This is supported by a comprehensive training programme. This equips staff for caring for children with learning disabilities. The manager knows the strengths of the team and areas he would like to develop further.

Regular supervision sessions take place between the manager and staff. Other senior staff are also trained to deliver this support. There is a focus on reflecting on practice and the care given to children. Staff are also supported with their well-being, learning and development.

The manager holds monthly team meetings. They are constructive and discuss the children's needs and progress in detail. There is additional time to discuss a monthly scenario. For example, what to do if a child is unwell. There are also separate child-focused key worker team meetings.

A range of quality assurance processes are used by the manager. There are monthly audits alongside daily and weekly checks. The manager also spends time with the children and observes staff practice. As a result, the manager has clear oversight of the care and protection of the children.

The responsible individual supports the manager well. He is also supported by an assistant operations manager. The manager receives supervision internally each month. He also has additional monthly supervision with an external consultant. This gives the manager separate support for operational issues and his own development.

The manager's practice is child focused. He speaks very highly and fondly of the children. He is aspirational for each child.

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: 2679067

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Good News Nwk Ltd

Registered provider address: First Floor Offices, 25 Sanders Road, Finedon Road Industrial Estate, Wellingborough NN8 4NL

Responsible individual: Nokuthula Mangwendeza

Registered manager: Paul Groves

Inspector

Shaun Caplis, Social Care Inspector

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