

2821407

Registered provider: Good News Nwk Limited

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 two children with learning disabilities.

There was one child living at the home at the time of the inspection. The child contributed to the inspection.

A registered manager leads the home.

Inspection dates: 28 and 29 October 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

The child is happy and feels safe. The child is comfortable spending time with staff. The manager and staff speak warmly of the child. They are proud of him and for the progress he has made. A family member of the child said, 'Staff listen to us. They use advice and information we give them. It feels like we are part of the team with them. Just give them a big pat on the back.'

Staff understand the child very well. They know the individual way he communicates his wishes and feelings. Staff help the child to understand their expectations. This is verbally and by using pictures and symbols.

The child's care plan is sufficiently detailed and sets out the child's needs to help staff provide the best possible care. The manager has a particularly good understanding of the identity of the child. However, details of the child's culture and identity are not in the care plan, and this would make it a stronger document.

Education is central to the child's care. He attends school on a full-time basis. Staff also support him with his learning in the home. This also includes independence skills appropriate to his needs and abilities, for example cooking, baking and personal care. Consequently, the child is making progress in school and throughout all of his development.

The child is supported to remain healthy. The staff encourage the child to eat a healthy and balanced diet, and a wide range of activities provide the child with exercise, such as swimming and walks. Medication for the child is stored correctly and administered and recorded in accordance with the child's plans and protocols. The reason for the medication is clear in the child's care plan. Health professionals are involved appropriately when required, and as a result, the child's healthcare needs are being well met.

Staff and the child get to spend one-to-one time together in the form of key-work sessions. These sessions are effective because they address topics relevant to the child's care. The staff use stories with the child to help his overall development, and these are recorded well by staff. Additional meetings take place weekly to gain the child's wishes and feelings, including if he feels happy and safe. He is helped to make choices about the home and his care. This inclusive and child-focused care practice means that the child is always central to the decisions made in his home.

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

The child has an individualised behaviour support plan that helps staff to manage behaviour when the child is feeling overwhelmed. The plan helps staff to identify what might trigger these more difficult behaviours and take action to calm the child.

There is also a range of additional support plans to support and aid staff's care practice. These are specific to the child's needs. They have planned outcomes, goals and required staff actions. Additionally, what the child can do themselves is also identified in the plan, and opportunities to help the child increase their independence are maximised.

Staff understand the risks and vulnerabilities for the child. There are detailed risk assessments that cover known and potential risks to the child. Clear control measures are identified to help staff minimise risks. In addition, there is a good assessment of the risk of the location of the home. This includes liaison with local police and external safeguarding professionals.

The child does not go missing. However, there are policies and procedures in place for if this should happen. Staff understand the additional risks to the child. This includes the child not understanding situations that may be a danger to himself.

The child has access to an independent advocate. The manager and staff know how to gain this service for the child when wanted. This gives another opportunity for the child's voice to be heard and raise any concerns or worries the child may have.

The manager takes any complaints seriously. He responds appropriately and records clearly the actions taken in response to any complaints. He ensures that staff learn from complaints, including in team discussions. Changes are made to practice where required.

When new staff are being appointed, the manager ensures that safer recruitment processes are followed. This ensures that only those safe to work with children are employed to work in the home.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager knows the child extremely well. He is a very reflective manager and pays a great deal of attention to the care provided to the child. The manager has high aspirations for the child because he understands the opportunities available to the child.

Staff have regular one-to-one supervision with the manager or deputy manager. The progress of the child is discussed as well as staff welfare and development. There are good monthly scenarios on topics such as safeguarding to ensure that staff remain vigilant and alert to risk. Staff also review their care of the child against the home's statement of purpose and values. This has created a positive culture in which the child is making progress.

Staff meetings take place monthly. These are productive meetings, and the staff feel they can contribute their views and are listened to. Additional team meetings are arranged following any significant changes, concerns or incidents. This means that they can learn lessons quickly, if this is required.

Staff receive comprehensive training. This includes mandatory face-to-face training as well as online courses. The training that staff undertake is designed to meet the needs of the child. The manager has also completed a detailed and helpful workforce development plan. This includes the new staff induction programme as well as ongoing staff development and training. The plans set out expectations for staff supervision and appraisals. Monthly research topics are shared with staff by the operations manager, for example safeguarding children using mobile phones and promoting safe working practices in the home.

The manager feels very well supported by the responsible individual and operations manager as well as an experienced external consultant and the deputy manager. He receives regular supervision that provides support and challenge. Weekly and monthly managers' meetings also give extra guidance and support to keep the home on a good trajectory.

A comprehensive range of audit and monitoring tools are in place to help the manager to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the home. As a result, the quality of care and protection of the child are continually reviewed. The manager stresses the importance of talking to the child and staff and continually observing the staff's care practice to ensure this meets the child'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— provide personalised care that meets each child's needs, as recorded in the child's relevant plans, taking account of the child's background. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(b)(iv)) This specifically refers to ensuring that the child's culture and identity are clearly recognised in their care plan.	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: 2821407

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Good News Nwk Limited

Registered provider address: D M O Accountants, 25 Sanders Road, Finedon Road Industrial Estate, Wellingborough NN8 4NL

Responsible individual: Nokuthula Mangwendeza

Registered manager: Craig Waights

Inspectors

Shaun Caplis, Social Care Inspector
Terrienne George, Social Care Inspector

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