

1248509

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 2 children with learning disabilities.

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

The home is led by a registered manager.

Inspection dates: 24 and 25 February 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account **good**

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: 25 February 2025

Overall judgement at last inspection: outstanding

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/02/2025	Full	Outstanding
11/03/2024	Full	Outstanding
24/01/2023	Full	Outstanding
22/02/2022	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

There is currently one child living at the home. The inspector spent some time with the child over the 2 days. There was a warm, friendly atmosphere shared between the child and the staff team.

The child has clear, predictable routines and consistent boundaries, which are embedded into their day. Staff are skilled at tailoring regular and focused one-to-one discussions, and social stories are carefully created to address topics of importance, for example developing independence, sharing space, community outings and keeping themselves safe. The team is committed to support the child to grow and develop in confidence and self-esteem.

The child benefits from a healthy lifestyle. Health needs are well managed in the children's home, with staff demonstrating a proactive approach to meeting the child's health needs. The child is supported to attend medical, dental and optical appointments, and there is evidence of good liaison with external health professionals. Staff promote a healthy lifestyle, monitor health outcomes and respond promptly to emerging health concerns. This helps the child to be healthy.

The child does not have access to an independent advocate. This could help to facilitate the child's voice being heard in decisions affecting them. It could also support the child when moving on into adulthood.

The child is provided with a homely environment. Their bedroom is personalised, and the child has a say in some aspects of the running of the home. Staff ensure that the child develops a sense of belonging and stability. While the home is furnished well, some of the internal fixtures and decorations are looking worn and tired.

The child attends their educational provision. They are well prepared for the school day, and this helps them to learn. There is a proactive multi-agency network with the school and the home, with daily communication and updates. This supports the child to receive consistency in care and education.

The child's contact with people important to them is encouraged and supported. The child's family visits the home, and they go out into the community regularly. The child is supported to have visits at the family home. There is good communication between the home, family members and professionals. This contributes to the stability of the child's placement.

Staff provide the child with a genuine sense of emotional warmth and understanding. The child is involved in most aspects of their care, and they make positive progress.

However, there are missed opportunities to ensure that records are written in a way that will be helpful to the child. Some logs and records are repetitive and do not always give a clear overview of their progress.

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

The child benefits from positive, trusting relationships with staff, with interactions that are consistently respectful and nurturing. The child trusts staff and seeks interaction and reassurance from them. Staff speak about the child with enthusiasm and compassion. They demonstrate commitment to the child and go above and beyond to promote the holistic wellbeing and development of them while in their care. This supports the child to feel safe and secure.

The child's individual risk assessments and support plans are detailed. Links are made between previous worries and potential triggers to difficult challenges. The vulnerabilities of the child are well understood, and the staff ensure that they are safeguarded across all aspects of their care. These plans help staff to understand how they can best provide safe care and support for the child.

The staff have completed all the relevant safeguarding and mandatory training. As a result, they have a clear understanding of their safeguarding roles and responsibilities. They also receive bespoke training that is tailored to the needs of the child. This supports the child to be provided with the care and nurture they need to develop trusting relationships with the staff team.

Medication systems and processes are managed well and safely. Staff receive the necessary training to ensure they are confident and competent in this area there. While medication is stored and administered safely and in line with policy, the monitoring and review of recording have not been robust.

The child does not go missing from home, and they are not deemed to be at risk of exploitation. They always have staff care and supervision, which mitigates against many risks. Staff maintain their safeguarding training in these areas and remain alert to possible risk factors for the child in their care. As the child prepares to enter adulthood, staff have worked tirelessly to ensure they are as safe as possible and are supporting the child in developing their independence.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is managed by an experienced registered manager. He speaks with commitment and dedication and is an integral part of the home. The manager has a clear understanding of the strengths and areas for improvement of the home, alongside a vision for the future that has the best care for the child at its core. The manager was open and transparent and consistently demonstrated professional integrity, making him an integral and positive influence in the home.

Staff speak with pride about the home and enjoy their work. They express pleasure in spending time with the child and enhancing their experiences. Staff are well supported by the management team and each other. The manager and team leader are a visible presence and approachable. They work well together, and staff morale is positive. This supports the manager and the team to remain focused on bringing continued progress because they understand this will benefit the child.

The induction process for new staff is comprehensive and thorough. Staff have access to a wide range of training opportunities that support them in meeting the needs of the child in their care. Staff say that the training they have received has greatly enhanced their understanding of the challenges the child may display. This has supported staff to adopt a more therapeutic approach when responding to the child.

Staff experience a high level of support through regular one-to-one meetings and team meetings. These are reflective and mean that staff can learn lessons and adapt their own practice. Staff could benefit from further discussions in their one-to-one meetings on wider safeguarding issues. They also receive daily support and guidance from the manager and each other.

External scrutiny from the Regulation 44 visitor supports the manager in the monthly review of the home. The current visitor is insightful in identifying the strengths and areas for improvements and in highlighting the positive experiences and progress of the child at this home. This level of scrutiny is openly welcomed by the manager.

Safer recruitment processes are in place, ensuring that required checks are completed before staff begin working in the home and that only suitable individuals care for the child. However, a gap was identified in the recruitment records. The manager is aware of this shortfall and is taking action to address it.

The manager has effective management systems in place to support the monitoring of the quality of care. However, there are gaps in some recordings and logs. The manager is aware of the shortfalls and the areas that require improvement. The manager has completed the quality of care review and the review of premises, but he has not yet consulted relevant parties to inform these documents. This could further enhance the quality of care and support ongoing development in the home.

What does the children’s home need to do to improve? Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person 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 must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
<p>The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children’s home that—</p> <p>helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and</p> <p>promotes their welfare.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—</p> <p>understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home; and</p> <p>use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(f)(h))</p>	<p>1 June 2026</p>

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that all children have access to appropriate advocacy support, and where possible, this should be provided by a person whom the child chooses. Looked-after children are entitled to an independent advocate to advise them and ensure they have the support they need to express their views, wishes and feelings about their care and lives. (‘Guide to the Children’s Homes Regulations, including the quality standards’, page 23, paragraph 4.16)
- The registered person should maintain good employment practice. They should ensure that recruitment, supervision and performance management of staff safeguard children and minimise potential risks to them. (‘Guide to the Children’s Homes Regulations, including the quality standards’, page 61, paragraph 13.1)

- The registered person should ensure that the content and/or outcomes of team meetings and one-to-one sessions reflect discussions on safeguarding issues, which allow staff to reflect on their practice and the needs and external wider risks of children assigned to their care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.4)
- The registered person should ensure that all staff are familiar with the home's policies on record-keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective and clear recording. Staff should record information on individual children in a non-stigmatising way that distinguishes between fact, opinion and third-party information. In particular, information about the child must always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)
- The registered person should ensure that the home is a nurturing and supportive environment that meets the needs of their children. In particular, the internal decoration and fixtures should be updated in a timely manner. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)
- The registered person should ensure that they undertake a review that focuses on the quality of the care provided by the home, the experiences of children living there and the impact the care is having on outcomes and improvement for the children. In particular, the opinions of children, their parents, placing authorities and staff should be ascertained and considered. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 64, paragraph 15.2)

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: 1248509

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Good News Nwk Ltd

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

Inspector

Thirza Smith, Social Care Inspector

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