

1250039

Registered provider: The Place Young People's Company

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This four-bedded home aims to provide high-quality, nurturing care for children who have experienced a range of difficulties, including attachment difficulties, trauma and loss. The manager registered in May 2018. He has several years' experience and possesses the required level 5 qualification.

Inspection dates: 23 to 24 January 2019

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: 20 February 2018

Overall judgement at last inspection: declined in effectiveness

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/02/2018	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
28/06/2017	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The structure, boundaries and routines in the home offer children a safe and stable living environment. Children are cared for by staff who are enthusiastic about their work and committed advocates for the children. A staff member said, 'This is more than just a job.' Their enthusiasm and commitment shine through in how they interact with and speak about the children.

Children are building secure relationships with staff. These relationships help children to address past trauma and address the negative behaviours and attitudes they have historically demonstrated.

Staff have also developed positive relationships with the children's families and the professionals involved in their lives. Professionals praise the work of the team and speak positively about the progress that the children have made. A social worker said, 'He [the child] struggled with receiving praise and hugs but he now actively accepts and seeks these.'

Children participate in various community-based activities, including sporting activities. These opportunities, and the children's participation, increase their confidence, enhance their fitness and improve social skills and sporting skills. One child volunteers at a project for homeless people. This is helping him to develop empathy and to be less focused on what he sees as the negatives in his life.

Children's views and wishes are listened to and contribute to their plans. An example of this is individualised reward schemes.

Transitions into and out of the home are managed well. This ensures that children feel that they are part of the home when they move in, and are prepared for their next move.

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

Careful matching processes are used when a new admission is being considered. This process ensures that neither the new child, nor the existing children, will be negatively affected should the admission go ahead.

Risk assessments are updated and reviewed as required. This addresses the sole requirement made at the last inspection.

Since the last inspection, staff have used physical intervention to manage behaviour 23 times. The number of physical interventions has greatly reduced over recent months. Managers have reviewed any significant incidents. This process of auditing enables managers to identify any triggers or patterns. This reflective learning is intended to

prevent the need for physical intervention in the future.

Children are aware of how to raise any concerns. One complaint from a child has been received. This was responded to appropriately.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager registered with Ofsted in May 2018. He has a clear focus on how to develop the service and his first aim was to secure a permanent staff team. The home now benefits from a stable staff team. As they become more established as a team, they are able to develop and collectively build on their knowledge and skills.

The registered manager and the deputy manager are ambitious for the children, the team and the home. They are clear about the progress the home is making and the areas that they are seeking to develop.

The staff describe their managers as being approachable, supportive and open to ideas. Staff speak positively about how helpful they find their supervision sessions, team meetings and group discussions with the clinical team. These meetings assist staff in identifying the strategies which are working with the children. This ensures that any inconsistencies in the team's approach are identified and discussed in the most suitable forum.

The managers recognise that staff rotas have been an issue and they are beginning to make changes. Staff say that the combination of a stable staff team and a rolling rota pattern provides them with a good work-life balance.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the differences made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and young people and their families. In addition, the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people whom it is trying to help, protect and look after.

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: 1250039

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: The Place Young People's Company

Registered provider address: 7 Jericho Lane, Barkestone, Nottingham NG13 0HF

Responsible individual: Norman Chessman

Registered manager: Peter Watt

Inspector:

Sonia Hay, social care regulatory inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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