

1257289

Registered provider: Ravensbourne Project

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is a short-breaks residential home and day service. It provides care for young people who have learning and/or physical disabilities and/or sensory impairments. The home can provide overnight short breaks for up to five young people (providing that two of the five young people are siblings of the same gender) aged between eight and 18 years of age. The home operates at weekends during term time only and all holiday periods.

The registered manager has been registered since 2016.

Inspection date: 20 February 2019

Judgement at last inspection: good

Date of last inspection: 7 August 2018

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

This inspection

The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection

This home was judged good at the last full inspection.
At this interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.

Young people make good progress from their starting points during their stay in the home. Staff work in partnership with parents to set appropriate age and ability-based skills targets for the young people. Their successes include improved social skills, increased participation in structured activities and learning to make choices.

Many of the young people who use the service are non-verbal. Staff have detailed knowledge of the young people's needs. This, alongside good use of alternative communication styles, ensures that young people receive support that is responsive to their changing needs. In one case, a member of staff understood that a young person

leading him by the hand was signalling his wish to watch a DVD in his bedroom.

Skilful planning by the staff team ensures that young people enjoy their time at the home. Trips to the theatre, local parks and train journeys are combined with activities in the home such as baking, music making and arts and crafts. Young people have their own individually named 'resource boxes' containing their favourite games or sensory toys which help them to settle when they arrive at the home.

New admissions to the home are carefully planned. Young people visit the home for teatime sessions before they have their first overnight stay. This means that young people become familiar with their new environment. The young people bring their favourite bedding and soft toys to personalise their bedrooms, which helps them to settle during their stay in the home.

Young people's 'all about me' booklets and positive behavior support plans help staff identify any complex or challenging behaviour needs. Sanctions and restraints are rarely used in the home and there has not been any physical restraint since the last inspection. However, during the inspection a young person was 'sanctioned' for property damage and this is not outlined in the young people's guide.

The responsible individual provides regular advice and support both to young people who have moved on to adult services and to the young people's families in the community. Parent coffee mornings, 'parent training sessions' and supporting young people at their health appointments enhance the home's services. A parent said, 'He (the responsible individual) is at the end of the phone for me anytime day or night.'

One requirement remains outstanding since the last inspection. Leaders and managers must ensure that records of all the staff employed in the home, including any agency staff, include evidence of their residential care qualifications, and a system is in place to ensure that staff's disclosure and barring service checks are kept up to date.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/08/2018	Full	Good
02/11/2017	Full	Good

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, 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
Fitness of workers (1) The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. (2) The requirements are that— (b) the individual has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills for the work that the individual is to perform; And (d) full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. (Regulation 32(1)(2)(b)(d)) In particular, leaders and managers must ensure that any agency staff that are employed in the home have the appropriate qualification and the home maintains a system to ensure that all staff's enhanced criminal record certificates are up to date.	31/05/2019

Recommendations

- The children's home must produce a children's guide. The children's guide should help children understand: what the day to day routines of the home are ('what happens in the home'). ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 24, paragraphs 4.21 and 4.22)
- In particular, the home must ensure that any consequences applied as part of the young people's behaviour management plans are clearly identified.
- Children's homes should be nurturing and supportive environments that meet the needs of the children. They will in most cases, be homely, domestic environments. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 42, paragraph 9.5)
- In particular, the home must ensure that the garden room door and the dining room light are repaired.

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.

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

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: 1257289

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Ravensbourne Project

Responsible individual: Robert Jones

Registered manager: Osareme Ikhinmwin

Inspector

Victoria Jones, social care inspector

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