

1263977

Registered provider: Care Perspectives Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This private home provides specialist care for up to eight young people who have mental health and/or behavioural issues. The home was registered in December 2017. The registered manager is experienced in residential care and qualified at level 5.

Inspection date: 12 March 2019

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Date of last inspection: 25 July 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 requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection. At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness.

Young people make good progress from their starting points. For example, young people now enjoy spending more time in the community, increasing their independence and enabling them to have age-appropriate experiences. This is a significant step forward for all young people, who have in the past spent long periods within a hospital or secure environment.

Young people engage more readily in their education, attending regularly and in some cases going to community colleges. Given the young people's starting points and disrupted school histories, this reflects the good progress that they have made. Records do not clearly show young people's level of academic progress and this is an area identified for further improvement.

Staff support young people's physical and emotional health well. Staff now update young people's health plans on a regular basis and these clearly show how young people's health needs are being met.

Young people's mental health has improved. Although self-harming incidents occur, staff respond to these quickly and sensitively and for some young people such incidents have reduced. Furthermore, debriefs take place with everyone involved in a self-harm incident. This helps the staff and young person to reflect on what has happened. As a result of good staff support, young people understand the reasons for their behaviours and learn different coping strategies. Young people recognise that they are feeling better about themselves and are rightly proud of their achievement in this area.

Staff ensure that young people's transitions into and out of the home are well managed. This prepares young people well and helps to lessen their anxieties. Young people's moving on plans are well informed and carefully assessed. Young people learn some good independence skills, such as cooking and budgeting, which help them to prepare for their next steps.

Managers and staff compile detailed risk assessments, which outline risky behaviours and strategies to manage and reduce these risks. This ensures that staff have sufficient information to safely meet young people's needs.

The organisation does not have a clear policy for when the home accommodates a young person whose legal status means that they are not in the care of the local authority. However, the registered manager is aware of the steps that she needs to take to address this and is providing good care and support to the young person.

The home's development plan shows what improvements have been made since the last inspection and sets targets to be achieved in the coming months. Good development plans facilitate continued improvement. Good internal monitoring means that there is effective oversight of the quality of care provided to young people. Some aspects of external monitoring are good. However, the independent visitor does not seek feedback regularly from relevant parties. This is a missed opportunity to consider the views of others.

Young people do present challenging behaviour and sometimes physical intervention is needed to keep young people safe from harm. Most incident records are appropriate and show how staff have been able to support young people using appropriate restraint techniques. Some restraint records do not contain enough detail and information is contained in different records kept at the home. This makes it difficult to track what has happened and may lead to information being missed.

Staff's recording of sanctions is variable. Staff log this information in different places. This makes it difficult for the registered manager to evaluate the effectiveness of these measures and to ensure that young people receive a consistent response to their behaviours.

The registered manager ensures that she notifies Ofsted and other agencies of any serious incidents that occur at the home. This ensures that relevant people are kept well informed. Serious incident notifications are detailed and show that staff have responded appropriately.

Managers and staff work effectively with partner agencies. A social worker said, 'This is the best home I have had the pleasure of working with.' She highlights good communication and effective responses to behaviours as particular strengths of the staff team.

Staff practice has improved. Staff better understand the aims and objectives set out in the home's statement of purpose. Staff are more aware of the different theoretical models used and they receive good training in different aspects of mental health. As a result, staff have the skills to meet the young people's needs. The clinical team is now more integrated into all aspects of life at the home. This has led to both staff and young people feeling more supported and confident.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/07/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be 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
The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure that staff— help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 8 (1)(2)(a)(i))	26/04/2019

In particular, ensure that plans reflect young people's academic progress and staff understand what progress young people have made.	
The registered person must ensure that within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes— the name of the child; details of the child's behaviour leading to the use of the measure; the date, time and location of the use of the measure; a description of the measure and its duration; details of any methods used or steps taken to avoid the need to use the measure; the name of the person who used the measure ("the user"), and of any other person present when the measure was used; the effectiveness and any consequences of the use of the measure; and a description of any injury to the child or any other person, and any medical treatment administered, as a result of the measure; within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person") has spoken to the user about the measure; and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate. (Regulation 35 (3)(a)(i–viii)(b)(i)) In particular, ensure that restraint records contain all the required information. When young people receive consequences, ensure that these are clearly recorded and managers review the effectiveness of these.	05/04/2019
This regulation applies to a child who is not looked after by a local authority. If the child is placed in a children's home by a voluntary organisation, the registered person must co-operate with the voluntary organisation in agreeing and signing the child's placement plan prepared under Regulations 4 and 5 of the Arrangements for Placement of Children by Voluntary Organisations and Others (England) Regulations 2011 ("the 2011 Regulations"). (Regulation 18 (1)(2))	26/04/2019

Recommendations

- Ensure that any individual appointed to carry out visits to the home as an independent person must make a rigorous and impartial assessment of the home's arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children in the home's care. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.5)

In particular, ensure that the independent visitor consistently seeks the views of young people and other relevant parties to inform their assessment of the quality of care provided to young people.

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: 1263977

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Care Perspectives Limited

Registered provider address: Prusinski and Co Chartered Accountants, 18 Frederick Street, Loughborough LE11 3BJ

Responsible individual: Terry Reekie

Registered manager: Sonia Sullivan

Inspector

Andrew Hewston, social care inspector

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