

1264840

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home provides medium- to long-term care and accommodation for up to three young people who have complex social and emotional needs.

Inspection date: 30 January 2019

Judgement at last inspection: good

Date of last inspection: 9 May 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 have positive, trusting relationships with committed staff and say that they are happy. One young person said, 'It's sound here', adding that there was nothing he wanted to change. Young people know how to complain and when they do they receive appropriate and prompt responses from staff and the manager.

The home remains welcoming, comfortable and well maintained. Enthusiastic staff engage young people in a range of stimulating and fun activities. Photographs around the home show young people enjoying cooking, trips to the Transport Museum and to the Manchester City Football Club. Young people also play badminton and go ice skating with staff, which supports their physical and mental well-being. One young person regularly attends the cadets, which has improved his social development and self-confidence.

Young people make significant progress in their independence, managing their emotions, their behaviour and their education. Sensitive staff treat each young person as an individual and help them to explore their identity. One young person attends LGBTQ group meetings. Staff have supported one young person to attend a snowboarding course, which has resulted in him being offered the fantastic opportunity to train to be an instructor.

The manager is child-focused and advocates on behalf of young people to ensure that they receive the services that they need. She has benefited from regular supervision and strong support from senior managers. She has successfully enabled staff to continue to provide young people with a good standard of care.

The manager provides staff with regular supervision and team meetings. Staff say that they enjoy working at the home and speak positively of the team and the manager. While there has been a period of staff shortages since the last inspection due to some staff leaving, the manager has ensured that staff from other homes who know the young people have provided cover and consistent care. The impact of the staff shortages has been reduced as the home has only recently accommodated three young people.

The manager responded positively to the requirement from the last inspection. As a result, staff training is now up to date. Staff are either appropriately qualified or are working towards this.

Staff continue to keep young people safe. When young people go missing, staff follow them and liaise with appropriate professionals. Staff understand the links between young people going missing and child sexual exploitation. Staffing ratios are appropriate and young people receive consistent care from staff who they know well. Physical intervention is used as a last resort. Staff ascertain young people's feelings after a restraint and support them emotionally. The manager debriefs staff to encourage and enable staff to reflect on the effectiveness of each restraint and if they could have managed the incident differently.

Working with other agencies, including education, local authorities and child and adolescent mental health services, is a strength of the service. Other professionals provide positive feedback. One social worker said, 'I have a lot of respect for the team. He [the young person] is achieving positive outcomes in education and activities. Staff communicate really well. They keep him safe, with appropriate risk assessments and staffing ratios. They are brilliant.'

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/05/2018	Full	Good

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: 1264840

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Esland North Limited

Registered provider address: Suites 1 & 5, Riverside Business Centre, Foundry Lane, Milford, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 0RN

Responsible individual: Lyndsey Sim

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Louise Whittle, social care inspector

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