

1271383

Registered provider: Nottinghamshire YMCA

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and run by a charity. It provides care for up to three children and young people who display behavioural difficulties and may have mild learning difficulties.

A manager is in post and is in the process of registering with Ofsted.

Due to COVID-19, at the request of the Secretary of State, we suspended all routine inspections of social care providers carried out under the social care common inspection framework (SCCIF) on 17 March 2020. We returned to routine SCCIF inspections on 12 April 2021.

We last visited this setting on 29 September 2020 to carry out an assurance visit. The report is published on the Ofsted website.

Inspection dates: 9 and 10 November 2021

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: 18 February 2020

Overall judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/02/2020	Full	Requires improvement to be good
18/11/2019	Full	Inadequate
14/01/2019	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

Children make clear progress from their starting points. Staff have high aspirations for the children. The skilled staff team understands children's needs and supports them to reach their potential.

Staff nurture children. As a result, children are comfortable and relaxed in the company of staff. Children feel safe and secure because they have clear, well-established routines and structure. Children flourish in this positive environment.

Supporting children to do well at school is a priority for staff. Despite not having engaged with education for significant periods of time previously, all children have now successfully reintegrated into education and are benefiting from bespoke packages of education. This is significant progress.

A culture of reward and recognition of children's achievements prevails. Staff strongly encourage children so that they are motivated to achieve their goals. As a result, children become more confident and their self-esteem improves.

Staff support children to develop self-care and independence skills. This means that children learn the essential skills that they will need to move into adulthood successfully.

The home is very well presented, with high standards of decoration and furnishings. This helps children to feel valued and enables them to take pride in their environment.

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

Risk-management systems are excellent. Risk assessments are robust. Staff regularly review risk assessments. This ensures that when risks reduce, children can enjoy increased levels of independence. As a result, children take part in a range of stimulating activities that expand their horizons.

Behaviour management is very good. Staff provide children with a strong sense of stability and security. They put in place consistent boundaries that ensure that children feel safe. De-escalation strategies are highly effective. This means staff do not have to use physical interventions.

All staff undertake regular safeguarding training. Their up-to-date safeguarding knowledge means that they can manage safeguarding issues well if necessary. Staff are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities. They know how to respond to any allegations or concerns.

On one occasion, a child moved into the home as an emergency placement, without a thorough evaluation of the assessed vulnerabilities of a child who already lived in the home. However, this was quickly addressed and the new admission was found a more suitable placement.

The home records the details of adults who visit the home in a visitors' book. However, the full details of some visitors are not recorded in this book. This is a potential safeguarding risk because a comprehensive record of adults who spend time in the home is not maintained.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager provides excellent leadership. She is a positive role model and leads by example. Her leadership motivates and inspires the staff, who are committed to providing the best possible care. Although not yet registered with Ofsted, the manager has significantly improved the operation of the home.

The manager has a clear understanding of children's needs and the progress that they are making in the home. She makes sure that care plans are of a good quality and regularly reviews these plans to ensure that children continue to make progress.

Staff benefit from a comprehensive training programme and are well supported to achieve the required qualifications. This means they have the knowledge and skills to ensure high standards of care. Staff receive regular, good-quality supervision that helps them to improve their practice.

Rigorous external quality assurance of the home supports the continual improvement of the home. Internal monitoring is also effective. It identifies areas of strength and areas where improvement is possible. The manager acts quickly on any recommendations that stem from the home's quality-assurance systems.

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 protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(v)) This is with particular reference to ensuring that the risk assessments of children already living in the home are considered before the admission of a new child.	6 December 2021
Schedule 4 sets out the other information that the registered person must keep in relation to a children's home. The registered person must— maintain in the home the records in Schedule 4; ensure that the records are kept up to date; and retain the records for at least 15 years from the date of the last entry. (Regulation 37 (1) (2)(a)(b)(c)) This is with particular reference to ensuring that all visitors to the home are recorded in the visitors' book.	6 December 2021

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: 1271383

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Nottinghamshire YMCA

Registered provider address: YMCA, 4 Shakespeare Street, Nottingham NG1 4FG

Responsible individual: Brenda Serrant

Registered manager: Manager in post, registration pending.

Inspectors

Amanda Ellis, Social Care Inspector

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