

1274672

Registered provider: Harmony Childrens Services

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run children's home provides accommodation for children and young people on a medium- or long-term basis up to the age of 17. The children and young people may have emotional, social and/or behavioural difficulties. The home can also accommodate those who have learning disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders, but the two groups are not accommodated at the same time.

The manager registered with Ofsted in January 2019 and is working towards her level 5 diploma in leadership and management.

Inspection date: 4 March 2020

Date of last inspection: 2 October 2019

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

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.

The young person has become increasingly safe in this provision. This is because the staff work well together and are consistent in the care that they provide. Staff provide good support to the young person and show empathy and understanding. This gives the young person the reassurances he needs to feel safe and supported.

Staff are effective in the application of identified risk management strategies. They can identify triggers to certain risky behaviours and work hard to help reduce situations that may cause significant harm to the young person. Because of this, the young person's risk-taking behaviour, such as going missing, criminal activity and substance misuse has ceased.

The staff team has a good relationship with the young person. One professional said, 'The support they have given him is excellent. We have never had this kind of support for a young person before. They have shown that they will not give up on him.'

The manager has improved her response to complaints and allegations. She follows procedures and takes appropriate action to share information with professionals to help keep the young person safe.

The manager has improved her quality assurance systems. This helps her to evaluate the quality of the care the young person receives. The manager has a development plan with clear objectives and this enables her to continue to improve the quality of the service. However, the monthly independent visitor's report does not meet regulation. These reports do not provide the visitor's opinion on how young people are effectively safeguarded and their well-being maintained.

The young person benefits from accessing a range of specialist services to meet his complex needs. The manager and the staff work hard to maintain good relationships with other professionals to support the young person. One professional commented, 'Their communication is excellent. They tell us about everything, and I cannot praise them enough.'

The manager has met all the requirements set at the last inspection. This demonstrates good learning from inspecting activity.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
02/10/2019	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, the 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 independent person must produce a report about a visit ("the independent person's report") which sets out, in particular, the independent person's opinion as to whether— children are effectively safeguarded; and the conduct of the home promotes children's well-being. (Regulation 44 (4)(a)(b))	01/05/2020

Information about this inspection

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.

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: 1274672

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Harmony Childrens Services

Registered provider address: Grants, 11 Park Place, Leeds, Yorkshire LS1 2RX

Responsible individual: Mark Raw

Registered manager: Kathleen Stott

Inspector

Jamie Richardson: social care inspector

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