

1280370

Registered provider: Time-Out Children's Homes Ltd

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is one of several children's homes operated by a private company. The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to two children who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

If required, children and young people can access the organisation's school and therapy department.

The manager has been registered with Ofsted since the home opened in July 2018.

Inspection date: 4 December 2019

Judgement at last inspection: good

Date of last inspection: 5 February 2019

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 the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.

Suitable action has been taken to address the one requirement made at the previous inspection. Information pertaining to specific health conditions, including asthma, is now considered and recorded in relation to restraint practice. This ensures that staff are clear about the methods that can be used and what action they should take if any concerns emerge.

Three recommendations were also made at the previous inspection, and have been suitably addressed. Systems are now in place to ensure that staff obtain a receipt from

the pharmacist when disposing of medication. The legislative timescales for completing qualifications are now considered when recruiting staff who have prior residential childcare experience. All staff have completed safeguarding training. Those spoken to during the inspection were able to demonstrate an understanding of how to gather information during the initial stages of a child making an allegation.

Two young children have lived at this home since the last inspection. Both are doing very well and achieving success in line with their individual plans. This is because they are cared for by staff who offer unconditional support that is delivered in a nurturing and caring manner. A professional wrote, 'The environment is nurturing and extremely child-centred. The staff team are considerate of [name's] past experiences and trauma and have a good understanding of his needs. [Name's] needs are met to an extremely high standard.'

The need and demand for attention is constantly high from these children. Staff work tirelessly to maintain good routines that keep children interested and positively motivated. As a result, both children are attending and engaging in education during the day, and are enjoying a range of positive and stimulating activities during evenings, weekends and holidays. One child was keen to show the inspector pictures of his holiday to Disneyland Paris and the other wanted to show pictures of his holiday to Spain. These were first experiences abroad for both children.

Staff take a calm, patient and tolerant approach to behaviour management. They recognise when children are struggling to control their emotions and make every effort to support them to regain control. Despite this, there have been 99 restraints since the last inspection, the majority being for one particularly volatile child. It is clear from records that restraint is only used as a very last resort. For example, staff have tolerated having their hair pulled and being scratched, bitten and kicked before taking hold of the child. However, the inspector noted an isolated incident when the threshold for physical restraint had not been met. While it is acknowledged that no harm came to the child, a requirement is made.

The home is effectively run by a child-centred manager who aspires to provide high standards of care. She has a good understanding of what the home does well, and works hard to promote improvement. She uses a range of monitoring processes to quality-assure care planning and staff practice. For the most part, this monitoring activity is rigorous and purposeful. However, monitoring of restraint practice requires improvement.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
05/02/2019	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
The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13(1)(b)(2)(h)) Specifically, the registered manager should ensure that it is routine practice when quality-assuring incidents of restraint to check that the threshold for restraint, as determined under regulation 20, has been met.	01/01/2020
Restraint in relation to a child is only permitted for the purpose of preventing— injury to any person (including the child); serious damage to the property of any person (including the child); or a child who is accommodated in a secure children's home from absconding from the home. (Regulation 20(1)(a)(b)(c))	01/01/2020

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: 1280370

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Time-Out Children's Homes Ltd

Registered provider address: Unit 2, Ripponden Mill, Mill Fold, Ripponden, Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire HX6 4DH

Responsible individual: Janet Lumb

Registered manager: Katie Tomlinson

Inspector

Paul Scott, social care inspector

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