

2514770

Registered provider: Time-Out Children's Homes Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and run by a private company. It provides care for up to two children who may have emotional and social difficulties. There are currently two children living at this home. The staff are referred to as carers or the care team.

The manager commenced her role in February 2021 and registered on 4 April 2021. She is currently undertaking her level 5 diploma in leadership and management.

The home registered on 17 April 2019 and has not had a full inspection.

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 30 September 2020 to carry out an assurance visit. The report is published on the Ofsted website.

Inspection dates: 22 and 23 March 2022

Overall experiences and progress of children and , taking into account **outstanding**

How well children and are helped and protected **outstanding**

The effectiveness of leaders and managers **outstanding**

The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and who need help, protection and care.

Date of last inspection: 31 January 2020

Overall judgement at last inspection: not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
31/01/2020	Interim	Not judged
08/10/2019	Interim	Not judged

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

The home's statement of purpose is reflective of the excellent therapeutic and individualised care that children receive. Children are supported in all aspects of their lives and, as a result, grow in self-confidence, enjoy life and feel a sense of belonging.

The manager and carers have built positive relationships with the children, their families and professionals, and this is enabling the children to have meaningful and quality family time. One child is being supported to get to know a parent he has never met before, and another is being helped to repair fragile relationships.

Children have increased their engagement with education since coming to live at the home. Their attendance is almost 100%, and children actually look forward to going to school. The manager is very effective in unpicking the barriers to learning. This means children experience a smooth transition into school when they come to live at the home or when they leave.

Children's physical and mental health needs are being attended to, and their emotional well-being improves as a result. Specialist therapeutic support forms part of the package of care. This means that children can have immediate access to therapy as and when they need it.

Expectations around acceptable behaviour are clear, and children respond well to the boundaries and guidance in place. This therapeutic and restorative approach is used effectively to identify and meet children's needs. Staff practice is totally child-centred, and children are empowered to make their views known, which builds on their confidence and self-esteem.

Plans and case records are of excellent quality and fully up to date. Partnership working is effective. Feedback from families and other agencies is very positive.

The quality of care is excellent and highly individualised, and staff take the time to get to know children extremely well. Staff build close relationships with the children, and this results in a sustained improvement in their lives.

Achievements and progress are celebrated, and children are given recognition through positive praise and rewards. They have a good sense of self, seeing their confidence in their abilities encouraged and improved on.

The children attend a range of activities tailored to their interests. For both children, many of these have been first-time experiences, such as holidays and trips to theme parks. One child has joined a rugby team and loves going out biking.

Children are supported to develop their independence, which is tailored to their individual needs in preparation for later life.

**How well children and young people are helped and protected:
outstanding**

The carers are very alert to the risks and vulnerabilities of each child and implement strategies that successfully reduce such risks. Incidents of children going missing are opportunistic and very few and far between. Children are more often able to talk to their carers about anything that is worrying them, and this helps them to feel safe and protected in their home.

Highly effective planning and practice result in decisions being made that enhance the safety and well-being of the children. Attention to detail and exceptionally good quality impact risk assessments mean that children who come and live at this home are there unconditionally. Children are able to feel an immediate sense of safety and security.

The manager and carers are able to understand the individual needs of each child to successfully manage their behaviour. They are effective in identifying the triggers and using de-escalation techniques when a child is in crisis. Children are given the tools to help them self-regulate and manage their emotions better.

Behaviour management measures, including the need for physical intervention, are used proportionately. The care team applies a secure base model of care that incorporates a restorative approach when addressing negative or harmful behaviour. This has seen the need for physical intervention lessen in frequency and duration for one child.

The therapeutic team is a real asset, and children can access specialist support as and when they need it the most. The manager has a wealth of knowledge about issues such as child sexual exploitation and self-sabotage, and has a good understanding of how childhood trauma influences children's behaviour. The manager disseminates this knowledge through team meetings. This helps to upskill the care team.

The environment is made as safe as possible for the children living in the home. It is warm and welcoming, and it has a homely feel. Children receive a lot of input from the staff to help them develop their own sense of safety. A great deal of work is done around keeping children safe online, and appropriate online safety tools are used to block unsuitable activity.

Children say that they feel safe living at this home. Safe recruitment practice ensures that individuals working at the home are rigorously vetted and safe to look after children.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

The registered manager is a highly motivated and inspirational manager. She is self-driven and conscientious in the delivery of high-quality care and practice. As a consequence, children are thriving in her care and making exceptional progress relative to their starting points.

The manager sources useful research and information, and disseminates learning to the care team based on the individual needs of the children. This is then used by the care givers in key-worker sessions and day-to-day conversations. This can range from staying safe from sexual abuse to road safety and what constitutes emotional abuse. This helps to develop children's understanding of risk.

From the matching process through to the transition to the home, the manager is fully aware of all the details for all the children in her care. She views them as deserving nothing but the best and challenges herself professionally to achieve this for them. She has created an excellent team culture, with all the team members feeling accountable for their practice. She has used numerous innovative ideas to help the children feel stable and secure, and also to enable their voice to be heard.

The manager ensures that the secure base model of care is embedded into day-to-day practice. Relationships with other professionals are excellent, and the manager promotes a collective corporate parenting approach, recognising that no one agency can achieve everything by themselves.

The manager is passionate about the lives and outcomes of the children, and this is evident through her challenge and advocacy to secure the best for them. She manages to maintain strong professional partnerships while championing this.

The retention of carers has had an impact. However, they have moved on for good reasons, such as career progression or personal circumstances. There remains a core team of adults that children can rely on. Newly appointed carers experience a well-coordinated induction and probationary period, and continuous professional development is encouraged and promoted.

Children are encouraged to participate in decisions about their lives, and they have a voice in how they want their home to look like. Case records are exceptionally child-centred and clearly reflect the work undertaken with children, and their voice and opinions are clearly recorded and acted on when appropriate.

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: 2514770

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Time-Out Childrens Homes Limited

Registered provider address: Timeout Children's Homes Ltd, Unit 2, Mill Fold, Ripponden, Sowerby Bridge HX6 4DH

Responsible individual: Dominic Macauley

Registered manager: Emma Higginson

Inspector

Cath Sikakana, Social Care Inspector

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