

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	04/02/2016
Unique reference number	SC001531
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Catholic Care (Diocese of Leeds)
Registered person address	11 North Grange Road, LEEDS, LS6 2BR

Responsible individual	Carol Hill
Registered manager	Joanne Kell
Inspector	Ann-Marie Born

Inspection date	04/02/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Outstanding
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 outstanding at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has sustained effectiveness. Two out of the three requirements raised at the last inspection have been fully met. This demonstrates the home's capacity for improvement. An improved system for recording complaints has now been implemented. This will ensure that young people are provided with the outcome and the opportunity to state whether they are satisfied with the result. Young people report that they feel listened to and that, 'There's always someone to talk to if I want to and they know me really well already.' There have not been any complaints. The comprehensive statement of purpose has been updated and sent to the regulator. This provides local authorities, parents and young people with a clear view of the care to be provided. As a result, young people are appropriately placed enhancing their opportunities for success. A social worker said, '(Name of home) are doing brilliantly with him and the way they are managing him.' Young people are protected by the implementation of a robust child protection procedure. This document has been updated and provided to Ofsted but it has not been shared with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). Therefore, it has not been formally monitored in line with regulation. This requirement has been repeated. There were no other breaches of legislation identified at this inspection. Since the last inspection, one young person has left the home and moved in to halls of residence at university, after passing three A levels. He has settled in extremely well and keeps in periodic contact with the staff. Maintaining support for young people who have left the home is a major strength of this staff team. Young people see this very much as their home. They return to share good news or gain further support, as they would with their family home. A recent visitor wrote in the compliments book, 'Came to visit the staff as I was an ex-resident and wanted to catch up. Made to feel really welcome and brought back all the great memories I had here. Excellent facilities and great staff.' There have been two new admissions. These were planned carefully with introductory visits and overnight stays. Consequently, the process of bonding with	

staff and the other young people had commenced before they moved in. One young person is clearly thriving in his new environment and states, 'I am happy here'. The other, who has only been resident for just over two weeks, has yet to fully engage with the care and boundaries.

The dedicated and resilient staff team provide good role models for young people. Individual behaviour support plans are consistently applied. As a result, although all staff are appropriately trained in physical intervention methods, restraint has not been used in the home. For some young people, this is a marked improvement on previous placements. A social worker said, 'We've not seen the violence here that we've seen at other placements, that progress is massive.'

Appropriate sanctions are negotiated with young people. They assist them to understand the consequence of their actions as they reflect the negative behaviours. For example, not having ice cream after tea for a week for taking and eating all of the ice creams in the fridge and, buying a new pool cue after breaking the one in the home. Young people learn more appropriate ways of behaving and expressing any anger or frustration. A young person said, 'It's much better here than where I was before.'

Only two out of the seven young people have had any missing episodes. One young person, who had previously been missing on numerous occasions, has not absented himself from the home since November 14th 2015. He reported to the manager that he had 'Listened to all of the adults and it's time to stop going missing and not being safe and so I don't need to do that now.'

The other young person has yet to fully settle in the home and engage with staff. To protect young people while they are absent from the home, locally agreed missing person protocols are effectively applied and staff actively go and search for young people in the community. A social worker said, 'I don't have any concerns about that. Everybody, me and (home's name), we are all on the same page. We have an agreed response on how to manage his missing's.'

All of the young people who are thought to be at risk of child sexual exploitation (CSE) have received a full CSE assessment. The manager and staff team know the young people in their care very well and arrange for a further CSE assessment if they have any concerns about changes in patterns of behaviour. Young people are safeguarded by these measures.

The standard of care and outcomes for young people remain at an outstanding level. All of the young people are positively engaged in an appropriate education provision. For some, this is a major achievement in itself. Some young people have aspiration to go on to further and higher education and others have clear career goals.

Young people feel listened to, cared for and valued. This enhances their sense of belonging while bolstering self-esteem and feelings of self-worth. The good communication with partner agencies ensures that they receive consistent care,

further improving their opportunities to succeed. A social worker said, 'It was nice that they would be in touch about the positive things and not just about the concerning and procedural things. Then you know if they are ringing me up and praising him, they are doing the same to him. I know that they will be praising him as well.'

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a charitable organisation and is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to seven young people. The home provides care for young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. The home includes two, one bedroom self-contained flats for young people preparing to live independently.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/07/2015	Full	Outstanding
23/02/2015	Interim	Improved effectiveness
11/09/2014	Full	Adequate
22/10/2013	Interim	Good progress

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets 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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
12: The protection of children Standard (2) In order to meet the protection of children standard, the registered person must ensure – (e) that the effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly.	18/02/2016

What the inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspection we make a judgement on whether the home has improved in effectiveness, sustained effectiveness, or declined in effectiveness since the previous full inspection. This is in line with the *Inspection of children's homes: framework for inspection*.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, 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 who 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.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service 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*.

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