

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC001531
Inspector	Stella Henderson
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 Ann Hill
Registered manager	Kathleen Burrows
Date of last inspection	11/09/2014

Inspection date	23/02/2015
Previous inspection	adequate
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

This inspection

This home was judged adequate at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has **improved effectiveness**.

A number of requirements and recommendations were raised at the last inspection. The majority of these related to accuracy in recording on matters such as impact assessments, missing from home incidents, consultation, health plans, restraints and proof of identification for agency workers. These have been met in full.

Monitoring has improved since the last inspection with greater reflection, and a more prompt response, to areas identified for development. Two new requirements are set however to help further improve the quality and content of both the manager's and independent visitor's reports. This has no impact on the safety or quality of care for children and young people, but would assist the provider to take a more systematic approach and ensure full compliance with the regulations.

The Registered Manager continues to provide children and young people with good quality care in a nurturing, safe and emotionally warm environment. She sets high expectations for staff, and is ambitious for children and young people to achieve to the best of their ability. The manager and staff are good advocates for children and young people, ensuring they get the services and resources to which they are entitled.

Safeguarding arrangements have improved since the last inspection. Young people do not go missing from the home, and those previously at risk of exploitation have now been removed from the police's register of concern.

The frequency and quality of contact with family has improved for some young people. Improvements are also evident in young people's educational outcomes and their emotional wellbeing. All children and young people are in full time education or training and have 100% attendance. One young person achieved several GCSE qualifications, including an A* in mathematics. Some have taken advantage of

additional mentoring and support from the local university, others have enjoyed participating in the National Citizen Service scheme.

Children and young people extend their skills and learning by participating in national consultation groups, interviewing new staff, or by taking guitar lessons and martial arts training. One young person has attended an 'army insight' residential course. Children and young people also enjoy group holidays and immerse themselves in the activities such as caving and the 'zip wire'. These opportunities help children and young people to gain a sense of achievement, bolstering their self-esteem, resilience and emotional well-being.

Children and young people continue to be in robust good health. Few need the intervention of Children and Adolescent Mental Health services; where this is required there is very effective liaison to decide on how best to deliver this type of support.

Since the last inspection young people have moved into the self-contained 'training flats'. This resource is providing an important bridge for young people from semi- to full independence, but with the security of additional support should they need it.

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
11/09/2014	Full	adequate
22/10/2013	Interim	good progress
01/05/2013	Full	adequate
28/08/2012	Interim	satisfactory progress

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

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 Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Reg.	Requirement	Due date
33 (2001)	ensure that the independent visitor forms an opinion as to whether children accommodated at the children's home are effectively safeguarded and the conduct of the children's home promotes the wellbeing of the children accommodated there (Regulation 33)(8)(a)	23/03/2015
34 (2001)	maintain a system for monitoring the matters set in Schedule 6 at least once in every 3 months and improving the quality of care provided in the children's home. This is with specific reference to ensuring all the matters in Schedule 6 are reported on. (Regulation 34)(1)	23/03/2015

What inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspections 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

The purpose of this inspection is to assure children and young people, parents, the public, local authorities and government of the quality and standard of the service provided. The 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 relevant regulations and meets the national minimum standards.

The report details the main strengths, any areas for improvement, including any breaches of regulation, and any failure to meet national minimum standards. The judgements included in the report are made against the framework of inspection for children's homes.