

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	14 March 2016
Unique reference number	SC003884
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered manager	William Stanley
Inspector	Guy Mammatt

Inspection date	14 March 2016
Previous inspection judgement	Sustained effectiveness
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 this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.	
The manager has effectively dealt with the requirements from the previous inspection. As a result, there is improved continuity in the staff members used to support the young person, the independent person's visits now occur monthly and the young person is provided with up-to-date information on the misuse of drugs and substances. The young person has settled well into his placement and is happy living at the home. Staff members provide a nurturing environment that supports the young person's emotional needs well. As a result, he is developing his independence skills and self-confidence. He is learning practical life skills by undertaking some tasks around the home, and has begun to use public transport to return home from school. He does not display any of the negative behaviour that put him at risk in his previous placement. Staff members support the young person's relationship with his family and he regularly sees his sisters. The staff team encourage him to maintain a healthy lifestyle including ensuring his dental health needs are well met, and to participate in worthwhile activities. The young person enjoys cycling, fishing, camping and is learning how to cook. The manager ensures that the young person is cared for in-line with the local authority's plan. As a result, important objectives in the young person's life are being addressed. Staff listen to the young person and spend time talking with him about important events and subjects that matter to him, as well as how his actions impact on others. The manager links effectively with the young person's teachers. As a result, he ensures that the school meets the young person's needs. The young person has excellent attendance at school and takes responsibility for getting himself there in good time. He has good ideas for his future career and has had extra support put in place to help him with his engagement in lessons.	

The young person says that he feels safe living at the home. His sister said that the home suits him and that staff help him with any problems that he may have. The independent reviewing officer is happy with the care provided. He feels that staffing is good, consistent, and that staff sensibly stretch the young person to develop independence skills.

The home is well maintained and kept to a good standard. As a result, it provides very relaxed, homely accommodation for the young person to live in.

Staff members' morale and the communication within the team is good. The manager and staff team speak highly of each other and praise each other's work. A staff member said that they had learned well from the manager. In addition, a staff member said that the teams' responses to the young person are unified, while allowing room for appropriate flexibility and negotiation.

The manager and staff team receive regular supervisions and annual appraisals, which guides and develops them in their roles. The manager uses the independent person's reports effectively to audit the records and monitor the quality of care provided. He ensures that significant events about the protection of young people are reported to the local authority and notified to Ofsted.

Information about this children's home

The children's home is run by a private provider. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for one child or young person with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/10/2015	CH - Full	Good
16/03/2015	CH - Interim	Sustained effectiveness
08/07/2014	CH - Full	Good
12/12/2013	CH - Interim	Good progress

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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