

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	07/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC005553
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Dalepeak Limited
Registered person address	Richard House, 9 Winckley Square, PRESTON, PR1 3HP

Responsible individual	Andrew O'Reilly
Registered manager	John Allen
Inspector	Janine Shortman-Thomas

Inspection date	07/03/2016
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. The one requirement raised at the last inspection has been partially met. While the storage of controlled drugs has improved, staff do not systematically witness and sign for the administration of these medications. Young people continue to make good progress in all areas of their lives, as most have benefited from a period of security and stability within the home. Young people are making good educational progress in their identified education provision, as staff maintain suitable links with education staff. This ensures that any issues which may affect a young person's learning experience are quickly and effectively addressed, resulting in minimal disruption to their learning. Young people are supported and encouraged to maintain good health. Good links with doctors, dentists and specialist provisions such as children and adolescent mental health teams ensure that young people receive the help and support as and when they require. The manager and staff are proactive when services have failed to provide the identified health provision for young people. The manager and staff have made suitable efforts to resolve this by highlighting these shortfalls to the placing social worker and her manager. Despite these efforts some young people have yet to receive the specialist psychotherapy which has been identified within their assessments and the Registered Manager continues to pursue this. Staff are proactive, and ensure young people maintain links with those who are important to them. Staff highlight when there are issues which prevent positive relationships between family members and ensure appropriate action is taken to resolve this quickly. Staff facilitate and support contact for young people with family members who live some distance from the home. Furthermore they remain in regular contact with the young person and their family members offering support and guidance should this be required during prolonged family visits. There is a strong emphasis on promoting positive behaviour for young people and their behaviour is managed effectively by staff. Individual behaviour management plans and risk assessments offer staff clear strategies to support young people to	

behave more positively, and young people respond well to these, and the positive praise and rewards. Close links with the police, placing authorities and the direct work sessions completed with young people; which allows them the time to think and reflect on their behaviours and their consequences, have been effective in reducing anti-social incidents.

Staff understand their safeguarding roles and responsibilities and respond to any such events well. When young people do go missing from home, staff are acutely aware of their roles and responsibilities; they do what they can to locate young people by undertaking local searches and contact all agencies swiftly. This care practice and the direct work staff undertake with young people following these incidents, increases young people's knowledge of the potential dangers and risks associated with this behaviour, so that they can make safer and more suitable choices in the future. As a result, some young people are making safer decision and as such the frequency of missing from home incidents for some young people has now reduced.

Family members and professionals report that the positive relationships young people have developed and maintain with the staff team, supports their children well, ensuring that they continue to make good progress in all aspects of their lives. One family member said: 'The staff have really worked hard with her. (Name) is doing remarkable; she is a different person all together. She used to be very demanding and had a bit of a temper on her, but she is a different person now.'

An adequate number of staff, who are committed, trained and supported well by the manager and leaders continue to provide good quality care to young people. Effective internal and external quality assurance processes, which highlight the strengths and further areas for development for the service, also ensures that the manager can continue to improve the experiences and progress for young people.

Information about this children's home

- The home is run by a private organisation and it provides care and accommodation for up to five young people with emotional and, or behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/08/2015	CH - Full	Outstanding
26/02/2015	CH - Interim	Declined in effectiveness
16/10/2014	CH - Full	Outstanding
19/02/2014	CH - 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
The registered person must make arrangements for the handling, recording, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of medicines received into the children's home. This is with particular regards to ensuring that the administration and recording of controlled drugs are carried out in accordance with current legislation and guidance. (Regulation 23 (1)(a)(c))	29/04/2016

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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