

Children's homes – interim inspection

Inspection date	18/01/2017
Unique reference number	SC008268
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	The Partnership of Care Today Children's Services
Registered provider address	Lansdowne House, 85 Buxton Road, Stockport, Cheshire, SK2 6LR

Responsible individual	Vivien Snape
Registered manager	Martin Russell
Inspector	Dave Carrigan

Inspection date	18/01/2017
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 judge that it has sustained effectiveness. Since the last inspection, one young person has left the placement to go to another home within the organisation that is more appropriate to meeting his needs. As a result of this discharge, one young person has been admitted to the placement. Young people say they feel safe, get on well with staff, and appear settled in their home. They know how to make a complaint if they are unhappy about an aspect of their care. Young people benefit from an experienced, consistent staff team that are qualified to meet their needs. Young people continue to attend their respective educational establishments and make good educational progress. Staff work in partnership with education departments and other relevant professionals to ensure that young people have every opportunity to reach their full potential. The home continues to ensure that the healthcare needs of young people are met. Young people access all primary healthcare services, such as doctors, dentists, opticians and specialist providers. Appropriate arrangements are in place for the safe management of medicines to promote the safety and well-being of young people. As good relationships exist between staff and young people, sanctions and consequences as a way of managing behaviour are not required. The home's records demonstrate that the use of physical intervention is rare and incidents of young people going missing from the home have significantly reduced. The manager ensures that staff continue supporting young people to have contact with their families and carers in accordance with their plans. This promotes young people's sense of identity. Staff ensure that young people have access to an advocate when they want additional support in achieving their wishes. Staff prepare young people for reviews and meetings, and ensure that their views are central to plans that are developed. The manager ensures that young people are protected by effective health and	

safety procedures that include regular fire drills. These ensure that the home is physically safe and meets young people's diverse needs.

Recruitment and selection processes are robust. These measures positively promote the safety of the young people by preventing unsuitable adults from working with them.

The home continues to be managed by a suitably qualified manager who has been in post since June 2013. Staff are suitably trained and qualified, and the manager has development plans in place for staff to ensure that they make personal progress, as well as improving the quality of care provided to meet young people's needs.

The manager has responded positively to the one requirement and recommendation made at the last inspection. Impact risk assessments are now in place. This means that any new young person's needs can be met and their arrival does not adversely impact on the stability of the young people already living at the home. Supervision of staff is now more thorough, allowing performance issues to be addressed along with allowing staff to reflect on their practice.

Information about this children's home

The home provides care for up to two young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. It provides medium to long-term residential care and is owned by a private company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/03/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
09/12/2015	Full	Good
26/03/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
03/12/2014	Full	Good

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 that 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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