

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC008270
Inspector	Michelle Spruce
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Care Today (Children's Services) Ltd
Registered person address	Lansdowne House 85 Buxton Road STOCKPORT Cheshire SK2 6LR
Responsible individual	Vivien Anne Snape
Registered manager	Ann Williams
Date of last inspection	24/10/2014

Inspection date	26/03/2015
Previous inspection	good
Enforcement action since last inspection	There has been no enforcement action since the last inspection.

This inspection

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

Since the last inspection young people have continued to sustain their placement and enjoy living in the home. Outcomes for young people improve because staff strive to deliver high quality care that encompass their individual placement plans.

Young people have more contact with their family and people that are significant to them. For example, one young person now has contact with previous carers. The manager challenged contact arrangements by supporting the young person to access an independent advocate to voice his wishes. As a result, contact has improved. This strengthens relationships.

Young people continue to access education and have high aspirations for their future. A staff member said, 'He attends full time and is completing his GCSEs'. This means young people aspire to do well and improve their chances to access further education, training and employment.

Health and well-being are high priorities for young people. They take part in physical activities that enhance their fitness. They look after their appearance and follow a good diet. This maintains their physical, emotional and psychological well-being. Staff work in close partnership with parents, social workers and health professionals to ensure their health needs continue to be met.

Relationships between staff and young people remain strong. Trust, respect and honesty are embedded into the home culture. Young people respect the culture and as a result, form healthy relationships. A staff member said, 'He used to isolate himself but he now comes down and helps with the cooking'.

Young people are safe and cared for in a home that provides nurture, warmth and a

homely feel. The environment is monitored to ensure all that live, work and visit the home are safe from hazards. As a result, there have been no accidents reported. Young people love the home they live in and feel safe. They do not go missing, engage in risk taking behaviour or require the use of physical intervention. Young people know how to complain. There have been no complaints or allegations since the last inspection. A staff member said, 'Community police continue to visit the home and spend time with the young people regardless of the fact they do not present behaviours'. This helps young people to feel safe.

Staff are recruited safely and are subject to a strict vetting procedure before starting employment. The home maintains good staff levels that provide suitable support to meet the individual needs of young people.

Young people have influenced the home by choosing bedroom furniture and décor of their bedrooms. During a meeting they suggested that the laundry room be changed into a games room. The manager has taken action to meet this request and it now provides an extra place for young people to use.

Activities continue to provide young people with opportunities to develop their social networks. Young people access youth groups, football, and piano lessons. They also attend the gym and play badminton. This widens their chances to socialise while keeping fit and well.

The manager and staff team provide high quality care and have established excellent partnership relationships with external professionals. This stable consistent approach gives young people confidence and motivation to continue to do well in all they aspire. Staff and the manager are excellent role models. As a result, young people mature and grow in preparation for adulthood.

There has been no significant event required to be reported to Ofsted since the last inspection.

Information about this children's home

The setting is a family-sized home. Care is provided for two young people of either sex who have emotional and behavioural difficulties. A private company owns and operates this setting.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/10/2014	Full	good
08/01/2014	Interim	satisfactory progress
02/10/2013	Full	adequate
05/02/2013	Interim	good progress

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.