

SC008274

Registered provider: Searchlight Care Services Ltd

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home provides care and accommodation for one young person who has emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. A private provider owns and operates this service.

Inspection date: 29 January 2018

Judgement at last inspection: Sustained effectiveness

Date of last inspection: 20 January 2017

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 last full inspection.
At this interim inspection the home was 'not judged'.

The home has not provided accommodation to young people since 14 September 2017. This inspection focuses on whether the children's home meets its statutory requirements in order to maintain its registration and is ready to accept placements.

Ofsted inspected the home in January 2017 and raised three recommendations. At that time, sanctions were not restorative in nature and were ineffectual in encouraging young people to take responsibility for their actions. The registered manager introduced a revised system of reparation and reflection. As a result of this improvement, there was a reduction in the use of sanctions.

The registered manager addressed shortfalls relating to the quality of the reports provided by the independent visitor. These now better support the development of the home because they include necessary and relevant information. Furthermore,

amendments to recruitment processes now mean that the registered manager ensures that all employee checks are recorded.

The use of physical restraint remains exceptionally rare, and there have been no incidents of staff using this measure of control since the last inspection. However, there are occasions when staff have taken hold of young people's arms to safely remove items that may potentially cause harm. In these circumstances, staff do not consistently record all required information.

Since the young person left the home, the environment has been fully redecorated and refurbished. This is in preparation for the next admission to the setting and helps to create a more homely environment.

Staff visit the home regularly and undertake a range of health and safety checks, including fire safety checks. This helps to make sure that the building is safe and free from avoidable hazards.

The registered manager continues to review, revise and monitor the internal policies and procedures. Subsequently, these remain relevant to providing young people with good quality care and support that reflect any changes to social care guidance and legislation.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/01/2017	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
12/07/2016	Full	Outstanding
19/02/2016	Interim	Improved effectiveness
01/12/2015	Full	Outstanding

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet 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 within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The registered person must ensure that within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes all necessary information; and within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ('the authorised person') has	05/03/2018

spoken to the user about the measure; and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35(3)(a)(i-viii)(b)(i)(ii)(c))	
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Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the differences made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and 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 whom 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.

Using the 'Social care common inspection framework', this inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, 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'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC008274

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Searchlight Care Services Ltd

Registered provider address: Marcus House Estates, Marcus House, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 5XA

Responsible individual: Denver Underwood

Registered manager: Janice Jacques

Inspector

Jo Stephenson, social care inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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