

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC009651
Inspector	Jo Hornby
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Keys Childcare Ltd
Registered person address	Laganwood House 44 New Forge Lane Belfast BT9 5NW
Responsible individual	Heather Ann Laffin
Registered manager	Rebecca Jade Sharples
Date of last inspection	11/12/2014

Inspection date	30/03/2015
Previous inspection	good
Enforcement action since last inspection	There has been no enforcement activity 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 **sustained effectiveness**.

Children and young people enjoy good quality care in a safe, supportive and nurturing environment which promotes their welfare. Staff have an excellent knowledge of each individual child in their care and frequently contributes to care planning reviews. Staff foster good links with key agencies, which ensures that young people are heard and that their views are important to decision-making processes. Children and young people's individual and diverse needs are fully recorded in their care plans which staff follow in practice. One social worker commented, 'they worked together with us and with key therapists in putting him back together, to make him whole and given him the chance of a good life and future.'

Staff have effectively supported young people to move on to long term placements. Individual transition plans are monitored and reviewed each week by the Registered Manager, staff and young person. Consequently young people are involved in planning their transition which assists them in transferring attachments to their long term placement. A social worker commented, 'We have been impressed with the work done by staff in preparing x for placement.'

The Registered Manager returned to the post in January 2015 following maternity leave. She intends to improve the home's development plan by making it shorter and less descriptive. The Registered Manager takes a firm stance to ensure that any new admissions will be able to integrate with the young people already living in the home. Subsequently young people continue to make good progress and their development is not compromised.

Staff encourage and support young people to engage in education and their attendance is excellent. Staff are aware of young people's interests and use this to

develop their skills and activities. They are proud of the progress young people make and provide rewards for positive behaviour. One child has been consistently putting his toys away and will be getting a CD player for his bedroom. As a result children and young people gain a sense of achievement and enjoy the rewards this brings.

Staff foster good relationships with children and young people, who are clearly comfortable in their home. One young person said 'I like it here.' Children and young people enjoy positive interaction with staff and assist with tasks in the home. One young person helped to do the shopping and enjoyed playing in the park later with a member of staff; Children and young people are enabled to gain in confidence and make a positive contribution to their home.

Children and young people are encouraged to contribute to decisions about their lives. A suggestion box is utilized for the resident's meeting, which has proved to be effective as young people have suggesting board games for games night and requested a trampoline. These views are taken into account and used to inform decisions about their care. Children and young people thereby develop a sense of belonging and feel that their views and opinions are important.

Children and young people's individual health needs are managed efficiently by staff; the Registered Manager has ensured that staff are fully aware of individual medical plans which have been created in line with dietary needs. These are comprehensively recorded in individual care and placement plans and risk assessments. Consequently children and young people are able to continue with their everyday lives without their individual health needs being compromised.

Children and young people's safety is given a high priority. Staff are aware of young people's risks and vulnerabilities which are managed well through high levels of supervision and support. Staff identify triggers for certain behaviour and work with children and young people to recognise the signs and feelings of anger or frustration. Staff set clear boundaries for young people who have a tendency to abscond. As a consequence the number of missing from home incidents have dramatically reduced, which indicates that children and young people are more settled in their environment.

The requirements and recommendation from the last inspection have been suitably addressed. There have been no new admissions since the last inspection. Two young people have moved on to long term placements and notifications have been sent to the local authority.

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and operated by a private organisation. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to four children and young people. The children and young people may have emotional and behavioural difficulties, including attachment problems.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/12/2014	Full	good
17/01/2014	Interim	satisfactory progress
16/04/2013	Full	good
07/01/2013	Interim	satisfactory 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.