

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	15/02/2017
Unique reference number	SC013553
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Bramley Care Limited
Registered provider address	Nicholas House, Riverfront, Enfield, Essex EN1 3FG

Responsible individual	Barbara Sharp
Registered manager	Post vacant
Inspector	Ruth Coler

Inspection date	15/02/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Good
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 full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness. Young people like living here. They say that staff look after them well and help them to progress. One young person wrote: 'I think it [the children's home] is [good] because it gives you support and helps you move on.' Young people are helped to move in well and their views are central to any decision made. They all have one week's assessment in which they decide if they want to stay and the staff have to decide if they consider that they can fully meet a young person's needs. Their views are listened to as part of this process, and they are taken into account even when these views are in conflict with those of the local authority. Young people's behaviours continue to improve, as one young person said: 'This home has helped me to manage my behaviours and not to be so angry all the time.' The staff consider what young people need help with when they are to move somewhere else. They plan effectively with young people, helping them to consider what they need to think about in order to make the move effectively. This support is appreciated by young people. Young people were very positive about their care, and actions are taking place to ensure that good staff are supporting them. The deputy had raised concerns about a staff practice and these were effectively addressed. During the inspection, the responsible individual was supporting the deputy manager in the absence of an appointed manager. This support included undertaking some of the staff supervisions to ensure that these occur regularly. The management arrangements are, with this support, working satisfactorily. Young people are encouraged to behave well and supported to reduce any negative behaviours. No complaints or restraints have occurred and no young person has gone missing. Staff understand which issues are affecting young people's care and have good understanding of their behaviours and how to help young people improve. If young people's behaviours change, the possible reasons are discussed with the young person and staff keep reviewing how best to care for and support them. Safeguarding is well understood by staff, who take effective action to protect young people. Staff have, when needed, supported young people who are making	

disclosures and they have worked successfully with the police and social workers following this.

Fire safety records show that checks are completed regularly and in line with fire safety guidance. Details about how long it takes to evacuate the home during a fire drill, however, are not all clear and therefore do not provide an accurate report which can be used to review and monitor any issues arising. Additionally, the recommendations from the fire safety officer's report dated 26/07/2016 have not been acted on. The home's plan to meet the fire officer's recommendations is not complete. The senior managers confirmed that completion will be a priority and set this in motion during the inspection.

A manager was registering with Ofsted, but left before the process was completed. The deputy manager is currently in charge of the home while the provider recruits a new manager. Although the management team has been in a state of flux, this has not impacted on the care provided, which continues to meet young people's needs and assist them to progress. The requirements and recommendations from the last inspection have been met.

Staff work effectively in partnership with other agencies to support young people's safety and well-being. They build good relationships with social workers and other professionals and help young people to build positive relationships too. One social worker was impressed that the staff had helped a young person to telephone him to discuss care arrangements, even though the young person had not met him yet.

Notifications are sent to relevant agencies such as young people's social workers and safeguarding authorities. On two occasions, significant concerns were not notified to Ofsted as required. While this had no impact on the safety of the young people, it is important that Ofsted is informed of all such issues without delay.

Information about this children's home

The children's home is one of four operated by the same private provider. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to nine young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

The provider has a separately registered school, which young people attend. They also employ a range of therapists, who provide individual and group therapy sessions for the young people.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/11/2016	Full	Good
16/02/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
30/09/2015	Full	Outstanding
20/02/2015	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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) meet(s) the Care Standards Act 2000, the 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, after consultation with the fire and rescue authority, they – (1)(a) take adequate precautions against the risk of fire, including the provision of suitable fire equipment in the children's home; (b) provide adequate means of escape from the home in the event of fire; (c) make arrangements for persons working at the home to receive suitable training in fire prevention; and (d) ensure, by means of fire drills and practices at suitable intervals, that persons working at the home and, so far as reasonably practicable, children are aware of the procedure to be followed in case of fire. (2) If the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005(1) applies to the home – (a) paragraph (1) does not apply; and (b) the registered person must ensure that the requirements of that Order and any regulations made under it, except for article 23 (duties of employees), are complied with in respect of the home. (3) In this regulation, 'the fire and rescue authority' means the fire and rescue authority under the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004(2) for the area in which the home is located. In particular the provider must ensure that they take account of all the recommendations made by the fire safety officer in her report of 26/07/2016. In addition, the provider should ensure that fire records are kept accurately at all times. (Regulation 25 (1)(a)(b)(c)(d)(2)(a)(b)(3)))	18/04/17
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if – (a) a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being	18/04/17

involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation; (b) an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious; (c) there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; (d) a child protection enquiry involving a child – (i) is instigated; or (ii) concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or (e) there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. In particular the registered person must ensure that any notification is submitted to Ofsted without delay. (Regulation 40(1)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))	
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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 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 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.

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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