

SC013553

Registered provider: Bramley Care Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The children's home caters for children who have sexually harmful behaviours which require specialist support. Every child must agree to engage with the home's therapeutic services in order for them to come here. Education is provided at a school which is also run by the organisation. The manager of the home was registered with Ofsted in December 2017.

Inspection date: 22 November 2018

Judgement at last inspection: good

Date of last inspection: 6 June 2018

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 the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness.

Leaders and managers focus on things that make a real difference to children. There is now clearer evidence of all of the actions the staff take in response to a safeguarding concern. The manager carefully follows up issues with other agencies. This has, for example, ensured that children's health needs are identified and met, and that safeguarding agencies are reminded about the impact on children of any delay in dealing with a concern.

Leaders and managers are identifying areas for improvement and are effectively embedding changes. Their focus on improving staff training has been very successful. It has led to a wider range of relevant topics being provided such as relating to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues and gangs.

An independent person visits the home each month. She schedules her visits during the day when children are most often at school. This was recommended to be reviewed at the last inspection. While the responsible individual has discussed the visitor attending at more appropriate times, this has yet to occur regularly. This omission detracts from the rigour of the visits as the visitor very rarely observes staff practice with children.

Children who recently moved in to the home were positive about how the staff helped them to settle in. Those who have lived here for a short while have settled well and are making good progress. They say that they like living here. One social worker said that she had received no reports of a child's sexualised behaviour since he had moved here and that he is 'much more settled'. However, the records kept during the week's assessment at the beginning of a placement can be vague and lack detail. This is a missed opportunity to fully record information which helps to determine whether a child should stay here and any future care that they might need.

Children develop positive relationships with the staff and feel able to talk to them about things that go well and things that they are finding difficult. One child said that he really likes his key worker who has 'stuck with him' through some difficult times. Many of the children who live here rated the home as 9 out of 10 or higher. A social worker said: 'The service really does what it says it will.' She was particularly pleased that the child who she supports is doing better at school.

The staff help children to move on successfully. The staff advocate for children if they consider that plans for their futures are not right and they assist children to be able to look after themselves. Nevertheless, the quality of records about how a child is helped to move on is varied. Records kept about one child's move to another home which the organisation operates was better than the records for a child who had moved to a different type of placement.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/06/2018	Full	Good
07/02/2018	Interim	Improved effectiveness
26/07/2017	Full	Requires improvement to be good
15/02/2017	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

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

Recommendations

- Staff should be familiar with the home's policies on record keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective, and clear recording. Staff should record information on individual children in a non-stigmatising way that distinguishes between fact, opinion and third-party information. Information about the child must always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

In particular, the registered person should ensure that staff always record sufficient detail about:

- a child's strengths and needs during the first week's assessment
- their support for a child who is moving to another service.

- 15.5 Any individual appointed to carry out visits to the home as an independent person must make a rigorous and impartial assessment of the home's arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children in the home's care. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.5)

In particular, the registered person should ensure that the independent person times their visits so that they can frequently observe the staff's care of children.

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: SC013553

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Bramley Care Limited

Registered provider address: Nicholas House, Riverfront, Enfield EN1 3FG

Responsible individual: Barbara Sharp

Registered manager: Louise Heron

Inspector

Ruth Coler, social care inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence>, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: <http://www.gov.uk/ofsted>

© Crown copyright 2018