

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC013598
Inspector	Liz Driver
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered manager	Peter Albert Davey
Date of last inspection	28/08/2014

Inspection date	26/02/2015
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Previous inspection	good
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

This inspection

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

At the last inspection carried out in August 2014 one requirement and three recommendations were made. The requirement related to the Registered Manager and the deputy manager undertaking a refresher child protection course. In response to this requirement the deputy manager has undertaken a designated child protection officer course and the Registered Manager has completed training in managing allegations and referrals. The Registered Manager has also considered the three recommendations made; further training on e-safety for staff has been arranged for May 2015. References for new staff contain a statement asking for the applicant's suitability to work with children and medication checking systems relating to stock control are robustly applied.

Children, young people and their families continue to benefit from this respite service. Children and young people enjoy participating in a wide range of activities, both on and off site and in the local community. Children and young people also enjoy spending time with their peers. Individual preferences and choices are listened to and actioned where possible. Some children enjoy a more calming environment and others a more stimulating one. This service provides for both. Staff are sensitive to individual preferences. This ensures staff can meet the needs of all the children and young people who attend the service. The service receives much praise from families who say the respite provides them with time to be with the rest of their family, attend family functions and to be able to socialise themselves. Many letters of thanks are received.

Monitoring of the service is good with regular independent visits and reports completed. This provides the Registered Manager with a good oversight of the service. Areas that have been improved since the last inspection include; designated car parking lines to enable safe and efficient parking, painting of the dining room and some of the bedrooms, upgrading of the computer system and achieving a five

star award from the local environmental health agency.

Safeguarding procedures are enhanced by the focus on further training around e-safety and child sexual exploitation. Staff have benefited from this training with further training planned. There have been no complaints about the service since the last inspection, no incidents of concern and a very low number of physical interventions. The low number of interventions undertaken are recorded, reviewed by the Registered Manager and relayed to parents and social workers. There are no incidents of children or young people going missing.

Staff liaise with parents, social workers and schools to ensure they are aware of the changing needs of children and young people so they can provide consistency of care. Communication books between families, school and the respite service work well and add to the consistency.

The service is in much demand and the Registered Manager works closely with families and social workers to ensure children and young people receive their allocated days and nights of respite care. Referrals and transitions are managed well.

Overall the Registered Manager has responded positively to the requirements and recommendations made at the last inspection and continues to make improvements and develop the service. No requirements or recommendations have been made at this inspection.

Information about this children's home

The children's home is registered to offer short break placements for children and young people with learning and/or physical disabilities. The home is owned and run by a charitable organisation.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/08/2014	Full	good
26/03/2014	Interim	good progress
06/01/2014	Full	good
29/01/2013	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.