

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	01/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC016600
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Bridge Communities Limited
Registered person address	Sutton Dipple, 8 Wheelwrights Corner, Cossack Square, Nailsworth, STROUD, Gloucestershire, GL6 0DB

Responsible individual	Joanne Scott
Registered manager	Sarah Womersley
Inspector	Nicola Lownds

Inspection date	01/03/2016
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 judge that it has sustained effectiveness. This unique home provides bespoke packages of care to young people. Young people's time here is a success as the responsible persons embrace individuality and the history young people bring with them. Staff support young people with education in a manner that helps them to engage in learning. The registered manager builds good links with the virtual schools that enables them to be creative with young peoples' education. This low pressure approach works and one young person who previously had to be home educated is now in full time education. Staff nurture young people; they care, engage well and consequently form positive relationships. Young people have confidence in the team caring for them and are comfortable to talk openly about any risks they may put themselves in. One to one records detail these conversations happening on a daily basis. This open dialogue increases the safety of young people living here as it enables staff to provide tailored support. The registered manager however does not consistently record the outcomes of these conversations. When young people place themselves at risk by going missing, misusing drugs and alcohol or self-harming staff know what to do. Risk assessments provide strategies that effectively minimise young people getting into risky situations. Staff follow missing protocols robustly. Relationships with agencies in the community such as the local authority, local police and youth offending service are strong and encompassed in placement plans. Young people are making progress that is set to improve their outcomes in later life. Staff help young people look after themselves, be independent and make safe choices. A social work professional said 'she is doing the best ever here'. Training is specialised and one member of staff said 'I am relating my learning about transference to how I care for young people'. Information in some young people's placement plans is out of date and in need of review which is a requirement from this inspection. Placement plans are not reflecting the most current care needs of young people. This shortfall does not	

have a negative impact on the direct care young people receive as staff share information with each other meticulously.

The registered manager has started to embed effective monitoring systems within the home to review the quality of care. The draft monitoring report includes more analysis about the impact of care on the young people in the home. Delegation of monitoring to other senior staff improves the quality and quantity of information to be monitored. The registered manager is satisfied with the new systems and said 'it enables me to identify gaps sooner'.

Information about this children's home

This private children's home is registered for up to five young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. The home provides individual support and preparation for independent living and offers an educational outreach service to support young people.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/11/2015	CH - Full	Good
10/03/2015	CH - Interim	Sustained effectiveness
12/10/2014	CH - Full	Good
31/01/2014	CH - Interim	Satisfactory Progress

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 meets 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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
14: The care planning standard In order to meet the care planning standard the registered person ensures that children (1)(a) receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; In particular that placement plans are updated regularly to include new information about young people.	12/04/2016

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- improve young people's one to one discussion records to evidence outcomes and actions taken when they have shared information about risks to them in the community (The Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations including the quality standards; paragraph 9.10, page 43)

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 have 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 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 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 who 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*.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

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, workbased learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It inspects services for looked after children 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 4234, 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 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 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: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2016