

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	04/02/2016
Unique reference number	SC020606
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	New Horizons (Child Care) Ltd
Registered person address	Hurstwood Court, New Hall Hey Road, Rawtenstall, Lancashire BB4 6HR

Responsible individual	Nicola Simmonds
Registered manager	Louise Tolley
Inspector	Hannah Bates

Inspection date	04/02/2016
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 judges that it has improved effectiveness. Young people are making exceptional progress. Educational placements have been secured for all the young people. Their attendance is excellent and they are making good progress. Young people who were not able to attend school at the last inspection due to their emotional well-being are now in school. This is a significant improvement. One young person said: 'I am now going to school and I have friends.' All the young people are now attending clubs. They have hobbies such as football and horse riding. One young person volunteers at the stables, which she said she enjoys. Staff encourage young people with their independence, and they do this as a group. For example, young people have nights when they prepare a meal for the whole house. A young person said: 'I like it here. Compared to my last home, it is much better managed. The staff here are good at listening and encouraging. I like all of them and I like all of the young people I live with'. Since the last inspection, one young person has moved out of the home into semi-independent accommodation. The registered manager and staff ensured that the young person had a well-planned transition, with the young person visiting her new flat. Staff took her shopping so that she had everything that she needed for her new flat. Key-working sessions focused on her move. This helped her to feel equipped and ready for the move. There has been one new young person placed in the home. The registered manager has taken great care in making sure that young people are matched to one another. They spend time together in the evenings, playing board games, and staff encourage positive relationships with one another. Staff implement structured routines for young people and there are clear house rules. As a result, young people are settled, and the daily routine of the home runs smoothly. Young people are safe and become increasingly safe. Staff are nurturing and committed to the young people. They actively strive to help young people to progress, and talk openly to them about their risks. Risk-taking incidents such as self-harm have been greatly reduced since the last inspection. Young people do not go missing. Risk management plans are individualised and provide staff with clear guidance as to how to work with young people to reduce the risks of self-	

harm and child sexual exploitation. Staff are trained in the needs of young people and actively source other forms of training to enhance their ability to support young people, for example bereavement training. Staff are proactive in managing incidents and they learn from safeguarding incidents to inform practice.

Since the last inspection, the staff have arranged parties for the young people in the home. They have had a 'mad hatter's tea party', a Halloween party and a Christmas party. Young people's brothers and sisters and other family members have attended these, along with their social workers. Young people say that they have really enjoyed these. They have had fun experiences.

Leadership and management within this home remain consistently strong. The registered manager advocates strongly for young people in her care. She has formed effective partnerships with placing authorities and other agencies, such as child and adolescent mental health services, and utilises their knowledge and advice to improve outcomes for young people. Management oversight is robust. The registered manager has exceptional understanding of the needs of young people and is committed to providing them with positive daily experiences. She is innovative, and regularly reviews the needs of the young people and whether current strategies are meeting their needs. There is a committed and strong deputy manager, and a robust and stable staff team to support the registered manager.

Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned home that is registered to provide care for up to three young people.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/07/2015	CH – Full	Good
09/02/2015	CH – Interim	Improved effectiveness
08/10/2014	CH – Full	Adequate
25/03/2014	CH – Interim	Satisfactory progress

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 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'.

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