

Children's homes – interim inspection

Inspection date	26/01/2017
Unique reference number	SC020608
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	New Horizons (Child Care) Limited
Registered provider address	Hurstwood Court, New Hall Hey Road, Rawtenstall, Lancashire BB4 6HR

Responsible individual	Christine Bird
Registered manager	Karla Dovey
Inspector	Louise Battersby

Inspection date	26/01/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Requires improvement
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 requires improvement at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness. Since the last inspection in May 2016, the manager and staff have worked hard to address the previous requirements and recommendations. The home environment has undergone considerable improvement. The house has been decorated throughout. The dining room and games room have been wallpapered and the kitchen has been refitted. This has created a much more homely feel. Consequently, the home environment is now one that young people feel proud of. The young people now benefit from constant care. New staff have been recruited, which means that agency staff are no longer needed. Senior staff have completed supervision training, which has enabled the whole staff team to benefit from regular and good quality supervision. Play fighting between young people is no longer a concern. Risk assessments are now live documents. This means that staff are working with up-to-date information about the young people's presenting risks. At the last inspection, it was identified that two staff members were not qualified in residential childcare within the required timescale. These staff are now near completion of their qualification. Staff invest in young people's education. The staff work in partnership with schools and colleges to help design tailored educational packages for each young person. When young people are looking for employment, staff support them to attend interviews. Staff help the young people to develop their curriculum vitae and to share it with potential employers. Since the last inspection, staff and young people have been through a challenging time. There have been incidents of substance misuse, missing, and extremely challenging behaviours. The staff team has implemented safeguarding procedures in an attempt to address the risks. These have included working in partnership with other professionals including the police, youth offending team, drug agencies and	

placing authorities. As a result, young people's risk-taking behaviours have slowly declined. However, the lack of stimulating activities on offer has led to boredom, and the opportunity for further risk-taking behaviours.

Since the last inspection, four young people have been discharged. Staff have facilitated these moves. For example, the last young person benefited from an outreach package that was put in place by the staff. This helped to enable a smooth transition for the young person from the home into semi-independent living.

The manager's challenge of other services is not always effective. For example, the manager does not consistently escalate concerns regarding other services practice in the best interest of the young people.

Information about this children's home

The home is registered for up to three young people who have emotional and behavioural difficulties. It has a satellite home situated away from the home. This is registered for one young person. This is a privately owned home.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/05/2016	Full	Requires improvement
09/02/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
20/10/2015	Full	Requires improvement
04/03/2015	Interim	Sustained 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) 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 within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
5: Engaging with the wider system to ensure children's needs are met In order to meet the engaging with the wider system standard the registered person must ensure that— (c) if the registered person considers, or staff consider, a placing authority's or a relevant person's performance or response to be inadequate in relation to their role, challenge the placing authority or the relevant person to seek to ensure that each child's needs are met in accordance with the child's relevant plans.	10/03/2017
9: The enjoyment and achievement standard In order to meet the enjoyment and achievement standard the registered person must ensure that— (1) The enjoyment and achievement standard is that children take part in and benefit from a variety of activities that meet their needs and develop and reflect their creative, cultural, intellectual, physical and social interests and skills.	10/03/2017
The registered person must ensure that individuals working in the home in a care role have the appropriate qualification by the relevant date. (Regulation 32 (4))	21/04/2017

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 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 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'.

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