

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC021677
Inspector	Maria McGranaghan
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Care Today (Children's Services) Ltd
Registered person address	Lansdowne House 85 Buxton Road STOCKPORT Cheshire SK2 6LR
Responsible individual	Vivien Anne Snape
Registered manager	POST VACANT / Anthony Garmory
Date of last inspection	16/12/2014

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**.

This interim inspection looked at the progress and development the home has made since its last full inspection which took place on 16 December 2014. At the time the home's overall effectiveness was judged as good with four good practice recommendations being made in order to further develop the service provision in the home.

The manager and staff have suitably addressed the recommendations made at the last inspection. The redecoration program is almost complete and the home is looking much brighter. New furnishings including a new suite, pictures, dining table and chairs and blinds create a more homely feeling.

Young people's education is viewed as important within the home. Those young people who find difficulty in reintegrating back into the school environment are well supported by a tutor employed to the home. Likewise, new young people are supported to maintain their previous educational placement. This ensures a consistent approach to their learning.

Behaviour management in the home is improved. Staff work alongside, parents and placing social workers to develop systems best suited to the individual needs and presenting behaviours of young people. Consequently, young people's behaviour is managed more consistently and episodes of unacceptable behaviour are reduced.

The managers monitoring of the home is improved. A new system to monitor practice in the home and take into account the progress young people make is now developed. Likewise, a more systematic formula is developed to plan and develop individual key-work sessions. Young people now benefit from regular sessions that are fully recorded, reviewed and signed by young people and staff.

The home continues to work collaboratively with safeguarding agencies and therefore safeguarding arrangements in the home are good. Episodes of young people being missing are reduced and there has been one simple restraint since the last inspection. Young people are happy and settled in the home.

Managers and staff regularly consult young people on all matters pertaining to developments within the home. young people confirm they helped to choose the décor and furnishings including the flooring and redecoration of their own bedrooms.

Information about this children's home

The home is registered with Ofsted to provide care and accommodation for up to four young people of either sex who may be experiencing emotional or behavioural difficulties. The home is owned by a private organisation.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/12/2014	Full	good
14/02/2014	Interim	good progress
09/10/2013	Full	good
13/03/2013	Interim	good 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.