

SC022447

Registered provider: Nugent Care

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and run by a charitable organisation. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three young people who have behavioural and developmental problems, neglect, attachment issues and disruptive behaviour. The registered manager has been in post since 8 October 2014.

Inspection date: 12 February 2019

Judgement at last inspection: good

Date of last inspection: 10 April 2018

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 last full inspection.

At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.

Young people continue to make good progress. They receive support and encouragement from a highly motivated, enthusiastic staff team that has a child-centred approach. Staff are skilled in developing and building relationships with the young people. These relationships enable specific targeted work and assessments to start swiftly. Young people are comfortable and relaxed around the staff. The young people reported that there is always someone whom they can talk to if they have a problem. Young people commented that staff are 'helpful', 'caring' and 'always smiling'.

Young people benefit from planned transitions when they first move into the home or when they move to a new placement. Careful planning takes place to prepare young people for moves or transitions of any kind. Since the last inspection, the group of young

people living in the home has changed. Following the positive planned moves of two of the young people, two new young people have moved in. Managers consider new referrals to the home very carefully. This helps to protect the stability of the home and prevents placements from breaking down.

Young people access education that is best suited to their individual needs. The reasons why both young people receive home tutoring are clearly outlined in their plans. However, the amount of education that they receive has not increased as quickly as anticipated. Furthermore, there is no plan available to indicate alternative provision for young people to ensure that they are engaged in suitable structured activities. A recommendation is raised to ensure that additional education is facilitated without further delay to enable the young people to make progress in their learning.

There have been incidents of young people leaving the home without permission. Staff respond effectively, applying agreed procedures and safety plans to safeguard young people and ensure their safe return.

The quality of recording is mainly good. However, improvement is required to some records to ensure that they are comprehensive. For example, individual risk assessments need to be more robust. Furthermore, the manager should ensure that the quality of recording is clear and concise and that they contain relevant information for each individual young person.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/04/2018	Full	Good
05/12/2017	Full	Requires improvement to be good
11/01/2017	Interim	Improved effectiveness
28/04/2016	Full	Good

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Recommendations

- Ensure that the staff are familiar with the home's policies on record keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective, and clear recording. Staff should record information on individual young people in a non-stigmatising way that distinguishes fact, opinion and third-party information. Information about young people should always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to them now or in the future. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

- Staff should continually and actively assess the risks to each child and the arrangements in place to protect them. ('Guide to the children's home regulations including the quality standards', page 42, paragraph 9.5).
- Where children placed in a home are not participating in education because they have been excluded or are not on a school roll for some other reason, the registered person and staff must work closely with the placing authority so that the child is supported and enabled to resume full-time education as soon as possible. In the interim, the child should be supported to sustain or regain their confidence in education and be engaged in suitable structured activities. ('Guide to the children's home regulations including the quality standards', page 28, paragraph 5.15)

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and 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 whom 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.

Using the 'Social care common inspection framework', this inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, 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'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC022447

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Nugent Care

Registered provider address: 99 Edge Lane, Edge Hill, Liverpool L7 2PE

Responsible individual: Gary Thistlewood

Registered manager: Susan Hatton

Inspector

Elaine Allison, social care inspector

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