

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC024808
Inspector	Dawn Bennett
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Keys Education Limited
Registered person address	Hurstwood Court, Laganwood House New Hall Hey Road ROSSENDALE Lancashire BB4 6HR
Responsible individual	Marc Joseph Murphy
Registered manager	Darren Craig Oatley
Date of last inspection	12/08/2014

Inspection date	12/02/2015
Previous inspection	adequate
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

This inspection

This home was judged adequate at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has **sustained effectiveness**.

Two requirements and one recommendation made at the full inspection have been met.

Since the last inspection there has been a change in the group of young people living with in the home. Three young people have successfully moved into their own or shared accommodation. The staff team worked effectively in partnership with local authorities, families and other services to ensure each young person had a specific plan that sensitively supported them to leave the home. For example, taking young people to purchase furniture and items for their new accommodation.

Some young people living at the home have historically exhibited high risk behaviours that present risks to themselves, peers and staff. Most young people make good progress in reducing historical behaviours. They engage regularly with youth offending services and do not re-offend. However, although there have been reductions in incidents, there are still some young people who display high risk incidents such as missing from home and verbal and physical assaults on peers and staff that result in police involvement and criminal offences.

Staff receive training to manage high risk behaviours and effectively support young people who have offended. When the service cannot meet young people's needs alternative placements are found. Since the last inspection two young people have moved to services which could better meet their needs. These moves were instigated as a result of needing to keep other young people living at the home safe. The Registered Manager and staff team proactively and effectively supported the young people moving as well as those remaining living at the home.

The Registered Manager has good insight into impact young people with challenging and high risk behaviours can have on the environment, staff team and other young

people. There has been significant damage to the home. This has been promptly reported and the maintenance team have responded to emergency work and are in the process of repairing and redecorating the home. Staffing has been increased in the home and new staff have been recruited to reduce the use of agency staff. Additional training on behaviour management, anti-bullying and mental health has been delivered to the staff team by the Registered Manager and external professionals. Further training on behaviour management, court orders and education is planned.

Most young people respond to consistent routines and make adequate or good progress in most areas of their lives. The staff team know the young people well and work hard to use positive relationships to encourage people young to progress. They work in line with the placing authorities care plans. They promote and address aims and objectives with young people through daily activities and tasks, key worker sessions, group meetings and partnership work with other agencies. As a result, young people develop confidence and learn to communicate their needs more effectively and become increasingly more independent. They gain a better understanding of risks and ways to protect themselves but do not always chose to make responsible decisions.

Young people discuss their views, wishes and opinions on a day-to-day basis and in regular house meetings. A range of appropriate matters are discussed. Sometimes topics relate to young people developing their social skills and coping with communal living. These meetings are also used to consult with young people on the development of the home and service.

The quality of care and practice in the home continues to be reviewed and developed. The home is regularly monitored by an independent visitor and there is evidence that the Registered Manager has responded to issues raised within their report. The Registered Manager has closely monitored outcomes and progress to improve the quality of care for young people.

Information about this children's home

This home is registered to accommodate up to four young people of either gender. The service is owned by a private company. The purpose of the home is to offer young people a service which provides semi-independent living in a supported environment.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/08/2014	Full	adequate
21/01/2014	Interim	inadequate progress
26/07/2013	Full	outstanding
22/01/2013	Interim	satisfactory 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.