

SC025420

Registered provider: Quality Protects Children Limited
Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and operated by a private organisation. It provides care and accommodation for up to four children with emotional and social difficulties.

There is an acting manager in post who is not registered.

Inspection date: 26 February 2019

Judgement at last inspection: good

Date of last inspection: 2 May 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 improved effectiveness.

The new manager has been in charge since January 2019. She is experienced, skilled and suitably qualified. She provides effective leadership and has a clear vision for improving outcomes for vulnerable children. She is making an application to be registered.

Leaders and managers actively monitor the quality of care provided for children. They learn from practice, complaints, placement successes and breakdowns, any serious incidents, and the views of children, parents and other professionals.

Leaders and managers are using clear and effective development plans to improve the care and experiences of children. This has involved changes to the management and staffing of the home, and building staff's expertise in using psychologically informed and holistic approaches to understand children and support them to feel safer. Staff are helping children to understand their feelings and find coping mechanisms and resilience through physical activity. Also, staff are using cuddles and bedtime stories to help a child

settle at night.

Children live in a friendly and nurturing home. Staff are understanding and patient. They give children the help and guidance that they need to grow and achieve better outcomes. The manager and staff play an active role with children's wider support networks, including teachers and health services, to make sure that children get the best possible support in every aspect of their lives.

A social worker said, 'The child is achieving everything I wanted for him from this placement. He is losing weight and feels a lot healthier. He is attending health appointments and his asthma has been assessed. He has the routine and structure that he needs, and he is going to school.'

This child's school attendance has increased from 3% to 90%. Another child is on track to get GCSEs and has a place at music college. Children are becoming increasingly healthier: they have a nutritious diet and healthy eating plans, they get plenty of physical exercise, and they are no longer using cannabis. With the help of health professionals, staff provide children with advice about the dangers of smoking, and support them to give up. Children take part in structured activities in the community, such as cadets, and make friends.

Children trust staff and know that staff listen to them, help keep them safe and always try their best to help them.

Staff's knowledge and professional practice help children feel safe and protect them from harm. Staff provide children with a suitable level of supervision. They continually assess the risks for each child. When they have concerns, they take every necessary step to make sure that children are protected.

The manager and staff use their detailed knowledge of the local area and community to protect children. They make every effort to make sure that children keep away from places where they may be at risk of anti-social behaviour, exploitation or discrimination. The manager and staff take decisive action when they have concerns about children. They work together effectively to understand the level of risk and develop suitable plans for keeping children safe from harm.

The risk of children going missing from home has reduced remarkably. When children have gone missing from the home, staff have done the right things to try to find them. Staff let the police, social workers and parents know quickly that a child has run away.

Staff make every effort to protect children from bullying, harassment and discrimination, and promote understanding and tolerance. They are working with a local charity to help a child understand the impact his use of racist language has on other people and himself.

The staff manage situations when children struggle with their feelings exceptionally well. They work positively and confidently with children to find the best possible ways to help them manage their feelings safely and to moderate their behaviour.

Staff are usually able to resolve problems without the need to intervene physically to keep a child safe. They have only restrained children on two occasions since the last inspection. On both occasions, staff appear to have acted appropriately, given the level of risk involved. However, following these incidents the manager did not keep a record

of any discussions with the staff about what happened to confirm that the records were accurate.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
02/05/2018	Full	Good
08/08/2017	Full	Requires improvement to be good
21/02/2017	Interim	Improved effectiveness
17/11/2016	Full	Good

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet 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
The registered person must ensure that— within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person") has spoken to the user about the measure; and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate. (Regulation 35(3)(b)(i)(ii))	31/03/2019

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 differences 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: SC025420

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Quality Protects Children Limited

Registered provider address: Quality Protects Children Limited, Hill House, Archway Road, Huyton, Liverpool L36 9XB

Responsible individual: Anthony Nolan

Registered manager: vacant

Inspector

Nick Veysey, social care inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence>, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: <http://www.gov.uk/ofsted>

© Crown copyright 2019