

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC029504
Inspector	Philip Cass
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Pathway Care Solutions Ltd
Registered person address	14 Regent Street NOTTINGHAM NG1 5BQ

Responsible individual	Peter Vallelly
Registered manager	Katherine Elaine Sydenham
Date of last inspection	03/12/2014

Inspection date	12/03/2015
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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**.

Young people remain safe and well looked after in the home. Staff respond appropriately when they display behaviours that make them vulnerable to abuse or exploitation in the community. Improved multi-agency working ensures that all young people are better supported to achieve good outcomes.

One recommendation was made at the previous inspection. This has been fully addressed. The home now works more collaboratively with placing social workers in the development of transition plans for young people. As a result, the views and wishes of young people are better understood. Managers have become increasingly assertive when advocating for good quality leaving care plans. This means that young people have an increased likelihood of success in adult life.

Young people, particularly those who display risk taking behaviours, are more robustly protected from potential abuse. This is because the home has taken steps to ensure that staff and managers have a thorough understanding of issues relating to child sexual exploitation. Staff are now better equipped to recognise and respond to child abuse. A social worker has commended the home for the way it shares information about potential safeguarding risks. The safety of young people is also improved because staff working patterns have been amended. This means that they are better able to facilitate safe travel arrangements following evening activities.

Young people reflect very positively on the 'better atmosphere' in the home since the last inspection. This is a reflection of improved interactions between young people, and better relationships between staff and young people. There is now less conflict because staff have adapted their behaviour management approaches. Young people make a more positive contribution to their home. For example, they have taken charge of recent redecoration and refurbishment of the home. Property

damage has significantly reduced as young people have invested time and energy into improving the appearance of the home.

Education outcomes are also improving, particularly for older young people whose emotional and behavioural needs limit further education and training opportunities. Staff are now more effective in working with partner organisations to develop individually tailored education packages. Incentive programmes are now used well to set high expectations of educational attendance and achievement. For example, the educational progress of one young person is rewarded with weekly driving lessons.

Information about this children's home

This is a home that provides for young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. It is registered to accommodate up to four children and young people. It is run by a private company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
03/12/2014	Full	good
20/03/2014	Interim	good progress
20/11/2013	Full	outstanding
11/03/2013	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.