

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC032315
Inspector	Lucy Chapman
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Brighton & Hove City Council
Registered person address	Kings House Grand Avenue HOVE East Sussex BN3 2LS
Responsible individual	Jenny Brickell
Registered manager	Clare Brunt
Date of last inspection	22/12/2014

Inspection date	24/02/2015
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Previous inspection	outstanding
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

This inspection

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

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Young people receive excellent care in this home. The registered manager is established in her role and is well trained and qualified. Effective management monitoring and updating of the systems in place ensure outstanding standards are maintained in this home. Good training and regular supervision underpin the stable well motivated staff team. Staff at this home work cooperatively to care for and support young people. One staff member said 'This team is a comfortable place to ask questions and to talk things through.'

The home provides a homely environment for young people and is well decorated and equipped. Young people help to make decisions about the environment and have selected paint colours for their bedrooms and communal areas. The home is equipped to meet the individual needs of young people who stay for short breaks. Facilities enjoyed by young people include a sensory room, a well-equipped activity room and a spacious garden. The manager seeks out new resources to improve opportunities for young people; currently being installed are new sensory spa baths. Young people are safe within this home environment and regular health and safety checks and fire drills are undertaken.

Young people's files contain current, clear and well-ordered information. Placement plans and risk assessments are up to date and are individual to each young person's needs. This means that staff have the information necessary to meet young people's needs and to keep them safe. All staff have received safeguarding training and policies and procedures for safeguarding are clear. Thorough employment check procedures are followed to ensure safe staff recruitment. An external visitor makes

monthly monitoring visits however; Ofsted has not received recent reports as required by regulation.

This home does not use sanctions for behaviour; instead positive behaviour is encouraged by reinforcement and praise. Any use of restraint or physical intervention is only to keep young people safe. Effective recording and monitoring of significant events, restraint and physical intervention enables monitoring of any patterns in young people's behaviour.

This home has a culture of listening to young people and giving them opportunities to make choices. Young people can choose which staff assist them with personal care or who they wish to spend leisure time with. An excellent system is in place to allow young people to make comments or complaints. The manager investigates and effectively responds to any complaints. The Brighton Youth Advocacy Project also visits this home and is available to represent young people's wishes and feelings.

Young people's needs and welfare are central to all aspects of how the home operates. Extremely caring and nurturing relationships exist between staff and young people. One member of staff said 'We really know the young people well and they are a joy.' All young people have individual development goals that have been established in partnership with parents, schools and CAMHS. At each staff shift handover young people's goals are considered. This enables staff to provide young people with opportunities and activities that they enjoy and which encompass their development targets. For example, one young person was learning to identify letters of the alphabet at school; staff read a story to this young person and supported them to identify specific letters. Such individualised activity planning along with the regular updating of young people's goals means that young people make excellent progress in this home. Staff recognise young people's progress and speak with pride about young people's achievements.

This home provides short breaks to young people with complex needs and works in partnership with other services to ensure that they are effectively meeting young people's requirements. Occupational therapists visit to advise on equipment, ensuring that it meets individual young people's needs. Staff from the home visit each young person's school on a termly basis, ensuring joined up working with education services. Yoga and music therapy services also visit regularly to offer young people opportunities which they both enjoy and benefit from.

A CAMHS worker is linked with this home and visits staff team meetings fortnightly. This allows staff to seek specialist advice to meet young people's needs. One member of staff said 'ACAMHS worker comes to the team meeting, she helped us to think about strategies to work with a young person and that was really helpful.' Staff at this home also work exceptionally well with the parents of young people. Staff have good working relationships with parents and regular visits take place to young people's homes. Regular meetings with parents ensure that staff have relevant and up to date information to enable them to provide best care to young people. One

parent gave the following feedback after the young people's Christmas party 'several parents said how privileged they are to have their children on respite at Tudor House'. Young people enjoy their short break stays at this home and their parents value this home too.

Information about this children's home

The home provides short break care and accommodation for up to five children with learning or physical disabilities. The home is operated by a local authority and is fully equipped to deal with the needs of the children.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
22/12/2014	Full	outstanding
12/02/2014	Interim	good progress
25/07/2013	Full	outstanding
13/03/2013	Interim	good progress

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

Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Reg.	Requirement	Due date
33 (2001)	ensure that the independent person shall provide a written report about a visit (the independent person's report) and provide a copy of the report to HMCI (regulation 33 (9)(a))	24/03/2015

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.