

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	22/02/2017
Unique reference number	SC033367
Type of inspection	Interim
Registered provider	Kirklees Council
Registered provider address	Kirklees Council, 30 Market Street, Huddersfield HD1 2HG
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered manager	Margaret Lewis
Responsible individual	Post vacant
Inspector	Pauline Yates

Inspection date	22/02/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Good
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 full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness. The majority of young people continue to maintain the progress that they have made so far at the home. Staff work hard to engage young people who are new to the home and help them to overcome the barriers to engagement. One independent reviewing officer said of one young person: 'He is quite closed. The home do try and engage him, be creative and do things with him.' A requirement made at the previous inspection has been met. This was to achieve clear and timely planning for young people making the transition into adulthood. Young people who have left the home have done so in a planned manner, successfully moving into semi-independent accommodation. Staff are involved in the planning of these moves and remain in contact with young people once they have left the home. Through the support and guidance that staff offer, young people learn the skills that they will need in their adult lives. As a result, some young people have found and organised their own work placements and part-time employment. There has been only one complaint since the last inspection. This was successfully resolved and responded to in a timely manner. There have been no physical interventions since the last inspection. Staff effectively employ their skills in de-escalation to defuse incidents that could potentially escalate. When young people absent themselves from the home, staff are active in seeking their return and in working within agreed protocols and reporting procedures. Documents have been amended in order to prompt staff to seek information from 'return home' interviews in order to better inform risk assessments. Staff work hard at establishing trust with young people in order to ensure that their whereabouts are known, and friends are encouraged to visit the home. A considered and balanced approach is reached in ensuring young people's safety while acknowledging their growing sense of independence. Since the last inspection, formal consultation with young people, professionals and families has improved. As a result, the managerial quality of care review is better informed and a requirement made at the last inspection has been met. There is	

progress towards meeting the development plans for the home.

The management team now robustly challenges other agencies and acts as advocate for young people to ensure that their needs are met. As a result, a requirement made at the last inspection has been met. Managers and staff work well with other professionals to ensure that young people's plans remain relevant and responsive to young people's needs.

Information about this children's home

The children's home is owned and operated by a local authority. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for six young people who experience behavioural and/or emotional difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
30/08/2016	Full	Good
09/02/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
08/12/2015	Full	Good
12/03/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

What the inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspection 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

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference that adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, 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 who 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.

This 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 Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'.

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