

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	15/02/2017
Unique reference number	SC033467
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	St Cuthbert's Care
Registered provider address	St. Cuthbert's House, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 7PY

Responsible individual	Sheila Errington
Registered manager	Gail Lamb
Inspector	Colin Imrie

Inspection date	15/02/2017
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 improved effectiveness. The home continues to be settled with most of the children and young people making good progress. During the period since the previous inspection, one young person has been admitted in a planned admission and none has been discharged. The young person who has been admitted has settled and is being supported well by staff. They are making good progress, particularly with their education. Most of the children and young people are settled in school, attend well and are achieving well. One young person has left college part way through a course and is now without education, employment or training. Staff are making improved efforts to encourage this young person to re-engage with some education or training. The staff have supported a number of the children and young people to improve their relationships and contact with their families, and this is positive. Of particular note are the greater efforts the staff are making to do more in-depth individual work with children and young people. This is having a positive effect, and staff are tackling difficult subjects with skill and sensitivity. This is a clear improvement and will help the children and young people to understand and deal with issues that confront them. There have been some safeguarding incidents. One child has been missing from the home on a number of occasions. These incidents are closely linked to their wanting to see their family. Staff understand what is happening and have made good and successful efforts to locate and return the child to the home on each occasion. An allegation of inappropriate conduct has been made by one child. The responsible individual has investigated this and found the allegation to be unfounded. Some other less serious safeguarding issues have been dealt with well by the staff. At the previous inspection, a requirement was made to improve recording, and the staff have made clear efforts to do this so that the requirement is met. No requirements or recommendations have been made at this inspection.	

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a charitable organisation and is registered for the care and accommodation of up to eight children and young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
23/08/2016	Full	Good
25/02/2016	Interim	Improved effectiveness
04/08/2015	Full	Good
23/03/2015	Interim	Improved 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 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.

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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