

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	01/02/2017
Unique reference number	SC035241
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Residential special school
Registered provider	Doncaster Deaf Trust
Registered provider address	Doncaster College for the Deaf, Leger Way, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN2 6AY

Responsible individual	Anne Roberts
Registered manager	Catherine Warner
Inspector	Jamie Richardson

Inspection date	01/02/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Outstanding
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 outstanding at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness. Children and young people remain happy in this home. They enjoy the ability to be able to communicate with everyone. Consequently, their sign language skills continue to develop and their social confidence grows. Children and young people are still benefiting tremendously from the social activities on and off campus. This is broadening their life experience and it develops their social skills. Individualised transition plans support children and young people to move on from this home smoothly. Staff provide close support during and after the move to ensure continued emotional support. The registered manager's monitoring systems remain effective in ensuring that children and young people are safe and make progress in all areas of their development. She uses six-monthly monitoring reports to focus on the strengths of the service and prioritise areas for development. For example, home improvements such as a new bathroom will further enhance children and young people's stay in this home. Children and young people's safety remains highly prioritised. Excellent relationships between staff, children and young people enable individuals to feel that they can open up and discuss their worries. Highly effective individualised work with children and young people allows them to recognise dangers, such as on the internet. Some individuals are now able to recognise risks themselves and report this to staff. Effective communication across the campus, particularly between home and school, ensures that any safety issues or problems are quickly recognised. This enables staff to put appropriate support in place swiftly. Partnership working with children's specialist mental health services, nurses and social workers continues to ensure that children and young people's needs are fully met.	

Information about this children's home

The children's home is operated by a charitable trust and is registered to accommodate seven children and young people who have a sensory impairment.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/06/2016	Full	Outstanding
15/03/2016	Interim	Improved effectiveness
20/10/2015	Full	Good
26/02/2015	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 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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