

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC035954
Inspector	Elaine Allison
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Metropolitan Borough of Wirral
Registered person address	Metropolitan Borough of Wirral, Education Department Hamilton Building, Conway Street BIRKENHEAD Merseyside CH41 4FD
Responsible individual	Simon Fisher
Registered manager	Debra Elizabeth Edwards
Date of last inspection	18/11/2014

Inspection date	24/03/2015
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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 **improved effectiveness**.

This short-break home continues to provide a high quality of care that produces outstanding outcomes for young people and their families across all areas of their lives. The home has demonstrated continued improvement in quality of care and outcomes for children and young people.

Care planning is individualised and ensures that the care provided supports young people and their families. This means that young people make excellent progress at the home that is then transferred to other areas of their lives. This helps young people to develop and sustain new abilities which significantly improve their quality of life. The health needs of young people are effectively supported by the introduction of a new 'Health Passport'. This means that all professionals working with the young people have an excellent understanding of young people's health needs and how they communicate.

The Registered Manager and the organisation have robust processes in place to monitor the home and identify issues that arise. Excellent weekly and monthly audits are carried out which ensure that the home is continuing to provide an outstanding service for the young people. There were no requirements set at the previous inspection and there have been no complaints made either to the home or to Ofsted since.

The home is decorated and furnished to a very good standard and has all the equipment and resources to allow children to have a comfortable, safe and enjoyable stay. Since the last inspection the service has sourced new electronic devices which further aid children and young people in communicating with staff.

All staff access a comprehensive training programme. They work from a practical and theoretical base that informs their understanding of young people's individual

needs. This understanding translates into excellent outcomes for young people. The service has invited parents and carers to join them on training in managing behaviour. One member of staff said: 'We are doing joint training on managing different behaviours with parents to make sure that the young people have a consistent approach both here and at home.'

The Registered Manager has a National Vocational Qualification at level 5 in Management and has worked in management for 13 years. This means she has both the experience and qualification to be in post. The Registered Manager and the provider have a range of successful methods to quality assure the care that the home provides. This along with robust internal and external reports provides them with information which is analysed by staff to ensure that the care is of the highest standard.

Information about this children's home

This service provides short-term breaks for eight young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties, physical disabilities and learning disabilities. In addition, one child is able to live at the home. The home is owned and managed by the local authority.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/11/2014	Full	outstanding
28/03/2014	Interim	good progress
27/06/2013	Full	good
18/02/2013	Interim	inadequate 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.