

SC037910

Registered provider: Hampshire County Council

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned and managed by a local authority. It provides care and accommodation for up to three children. Its aim is to help children recover from experiences which have caused them to be vulnerable and disrupted their primary relationships.

The registered manager position has been vacant since June 2021.

Inspection date: 31 March 2022

Date of last inspection: 6 July 2021

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be 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 requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judged that it has improved effectiveness.

The recent recruitment of a manager will offer some stability and enable others to fulfil their own roles and responsibilities. However, the manager has yet to submit an application with Ofsted. The recently updated statement of purpose now reflects the current ethos and model of care that staff practice. As a result, the care planning for children is more stable and positive.

When children arrive at the home, good communication and well-supported care planning is in place. Staff continue to provide emotional and physical support to those who have moved on to the next chapter of their lives. For example, older children who are more independent are supported to move into new accommodation. Others have continued to access support workers. As a result, children have stability and familiarity in their lives.

Incidents of damage to property and physical violence towards staff have reduced. Key-work sessions provide restorative conversations that support the rebuilding of relationships between children and staff. Committed and empathic staff ensure children have access to the appropriate professionals and resources to help improve their experiences and positive outcomes.

Children have a wide variety of opportunities to express their wishes, views and feelings. For example, children are encouraged and supported to attend meetings and write down in their own words their experiences of living in the home. This means that children have their voices heard in relation to their care planning and future.

Managers have made good progress to ensure that there is oversight and review of any restraint used. However, the recording is often inaccurate or misleading. This means actions and responses following incidents and the use of restraint may not be informed by accurate information.

The monitoring systems and quality assurance tools used by managers have improved. Senior managers have good oversight of the home and children's care planning. Nonetheless, gaps in staff receiving reflective practice supervision were identified during the visit.

The requirements made at the last inspection have been met.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/07/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
15/05/2018	Full	Outstanding
09/10/2017	Full	Good
21/03/2017	Full	Good

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'. The registered person(s) must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The registered person must ensure that all employees— receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33 (4)(b))	29 July 2022

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that information about children, in particular incident reports, must always be recorded factually and in accordance with the homes policies. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

Information about this inspection

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.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, using the social care common inspection framework. This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, 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'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC037910

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Hampshire County Council

Registered provider address: Hampshire Council, 3rd Floor, Elizabeth II Court
North, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG

Responsible individual: John Stacey

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Jill Sephton-Wright, Social Care Inspector

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