

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	03/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC039676
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered Person	Lancashire County Council
Registered Person address	P O Box 78, Preston, PR1 8XJ

Responsible Individual	Paul McIntyre
Registered Manager	Susan Sewell
Inspector	Caroline Jones

Inspection date	03/03/2016
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 judge that it has sustained effectiveness. Young people continue to enjoy high quality care and a rich experience at this short break home. They are involved in a range of activities including; trips to parks, shops, and arts and crafts. Additionally, the home is spacious and well equipped with sensory rooms and technology to stimulate their senses of touch, sight, hearing and smell, which they fully enjoy. Young people are central to care planning and tailored placement plans ensure that they are cared for sensitively according to their individual needs. There are two young people who are newly receiving a short break stay. Care planning, risk assessments and introductory visits are complete and demonstrate the appropriateness of the placement. Moreover, these young people settle very well and look forward to their stay. Staff have excellent relationships with young people, their families and partner agencies. This ensures that all information is shared so that each young person's likes, dislikes, and personal needs are understood and very well met during their stay. Communication booklets are also in place to ensure significant information is captured between the home and young people's families. Young people and their families have a strong sense of safety during their stay at the home. Behaviour continues to be very well managed through respectful and sensitive relationships built up over time with them. As a result, only one physical intervention has been necessary over a number of years. This is fully reviewed for its appropriateness and shared with family members to ensure transparency. Monitoring systems are effective. Feedback questionnaires also confirm the high standards of care provided. A development plan sets the direction for the home and refurbishment of the environment continues. The one recommendation at the previous inspection is now met and all staff have regular appraisals. The stable staff team are qualified and highly experienced in working with young people with disabilities. They receive regular training, team meetings and supervision to keep them up-to-date with emerging care practice. They enjoy	

working with young people and this provides for a happy and welcoming home environment during their stay.

Information about this children's home

This is a short-break children's home operated by a local authority. It provides care and accommodation for up to 10 young people with physical and learning disabilities.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/01/2016	CH - Full	Good
23/03/2015	CH - Interim	sustained effectiveness
22/10/2014	CH - Full	Good
15/10/2013	CH - Interim	Good Progress

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 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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