

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC040191
Inspector	Deirdra Keating
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Break
Registered person address	Davison House 1 Montague Road SHERINGHAM Norfolk NR26 8WN
Responsible individual	Hilary Bridget Richards
Registered manager	POST VACANT / Mark Richard Allen
Date of last inspection	08/05/2014

Inspection date	16/02/2015
Previous inspection	adequate
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

This inspection

This home was judged adequate at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has **improved effectiveness**.

The full inspection of this home in May 2014 identified two requirements and three recommendations. Since that time, staff and the manager have fully addressed all off the requirements and the recommendations. The staff team are committed to making positive changes and improving the quality of care provided for young people.

Records confirm that fire evacuations take place regularly and staff discuss fire procedures with young people upon admission. The fire evacuations take place at different times of the day and evening. The fire risk assessment is reviewed annually and individual risk assessments indicate potential factors contributing to the risk of fire.

A focussed recruitment drive has provided more staff to support young people and ensure their individual needs are consistently met. A change to the rota has provided three staff every weekend. Additional resources in the home, such as an extra car, increase young people's access to the community and their contact arrangements. Staff are increasingly able to facilitate young people's individual choices without limiting opportunities for others. During school holidays young people participate in different activities every day. This provides a structure to the day and gives them quality time with staff.

Managers have made improvements to the shift handover that supports the changing shifts. A detailed handover sheet details deployment of staff and specific tasks that support young people's care. This ensures that information is shared amongst staff helping to provide consistent care to young people.

The manager has introduced an assessment tool to support the acquisition of independence skills, this is in the early stages and will enable staff to target areas

that young people need extra support with. This helps prepare young people for adulthood.

An external visitor undertakes monthly monitoring of the home. This gives young people an opportunity to share their views. Internal monitoring, analyses data and young people's progress, but does not include consultation with parents and external professionals. This means that feedback from service users is not used to drive improvements.

Young people that leave the home maintain contact with key staff. Some young people visit the home updating staff on their lives and progress. Good contact is supported by the Moving-on Team within the organisation, helping young people through transitional periods.

Young people talk about the home positively and take pride in their school attendance and achievements. They are actively entertained through school holidays and at weekends. Young people make active contributions to the décor of the home. They use their skill and creativity to enhance their rooms and the communal areas resulting in a colourful and homely environment that they take pride in.

The home is increasingly settled. Physical restraint is minimal; there have been no complaints, no incidents of going missing and no incidents where the police have been called to the home for six months. This shows a significant improvement.

Information about this children's home

This children's home is owned by a registered charity. The home provides long-term accommodation for up to four young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
08/05/2014	Full	adequate
05/03/2014	Interim	inadequate progress
15/08/2013	Full	adequate
18/02/2013	Interim	good progress

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

Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Reg.	Requirement	Due date
34 (2001)	ensure that the system for monitoring the matters set out in Schedule 6 at least once in every 3 months and improving the quality of care provided in the children's home provides for consultation with children accommodated in the home, their parents and placing authorities. (Regulation 34 (3))	01/05/2015

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.