

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	23/02/2016
Unique reference number	SC040509
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Salford City Council
Registered person address	Civic Centre, Chorley Road, Swinton, MANCHESTER, M27 5DA

Responsible individual	Michael Kelly
Registered manager	Vicki Blood
Inspector	Anthony Kyem

Inspection date	23/02/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Outstanding
Enforcement action since last inspection	None
This inspection	
This home was judged Outstanding at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has sustained effectiveness. There were no requirements or recommendations from the last inspection. Since the previous inspection there has been a new admission and another young person has since left the home, to return to live with their family. The transitions for both young people were extremely well planned and managed. For example, a young person had several introductory visits prior to them moving into the home. As a result, they were able to adjust to life in a new and unfamiliar environment. The young person is settling in quickly and has been made to feel extremely welcome by staff. Young people report, 'I really like it here. It's really comforting and I need to be here. I needed the security. It's not like a children's home and there's not many people here. The staff have been really helpful and have helped me to adapt, very helpful. They understand my triggers and how to support me.' There is evidence of considerable change and improvement in the lives of young people, who make exceptional progress in relation to their individual starting points across all aspects of their welfare, physical, social, emotional and behavioural development. Young people benefit from effective, high quality support from staff who promote their needs effectively. Staff work pro-actively and positively with other professional agencies to meet the needs of young people by ensuring they benefit from the best possible help, protection and support. Staff consistently place the safety of young people at the centre of their practice. Risk associated with the young people are well known and managed by staff. Staff ensure young people are kept safe, feel safe and have a strong sense of personal safety. There have been no restraints or complaints since the last inspection. Risk taking behaviours, such as the frequency and intensity of self-harm and going missing from care for long periods have reduced considerably. Consequently, young people are less likely to suffer actual harm. When young people go missing, staff actively look for them and follow effective procedures to secure, their safe and quick return. Staff ensure the accommodation provided for the young people is physically safe, appropriately secure, warm, comfortable and homely. Young people benefit from a safe, highly supportive, caring and nurturing environment. Care planning is	

extremely well planned and practice is highly personalised to meet the needs of young people.

Young people benefit from enthusiastic, well trained, skilled and highly experienced staff who know them well and have a good understanding of their specific needs and vulnerabilities. Staff awareness of the same, enables them to anticipate issues and develop effective risk management strategies, which promote the safety and well-being of young people. Young people become increasing safer as result of the actions staff take to support and protect them.

None of the young people raised any issues, complaints or concerns with their care or support. On the contrary, their views about their care and their relationships with staff are consistently, positive. Staff have strong and trusting relationships with the young people. They provide them with continuity of care so they have stability and consistency in their lives. Young people benefit from staff they can learn from and talk to.

Young people report, 'Vicky (the Registered Manager) loves us all. They all do...Vicky, Rebecca, Rowena, Lisa and Racheal I have good relationships with all. The staff are more patient here. They know me. It's a lot more independent and I can see my family, whenever, I want. That's really important.'

There are effective systems for monitoring and improving the standard and quality of young people's care. The Registered Manager tracks young people's progress and monitors their plans effectively. They maintain highly effective partnerships with social workers, schools and the families of young people, to ensure their needs are met and they benefit from the best possible help and all round support. The performance of the home is monitored effectively and appropriate action is taken to secure its continuing development and improvement.

Information about this children's home

- The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to 3 young people who may have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.
- The home is owned and managed by the local authority.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
03/11/2015	CH - Full	Outstanding
11/03/2015	CH - Interim	declined in effectiveness
12/09/2014	CH - Full	Outstanding
17/02/2014	CH - Interim	Satisfactory 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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