

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC040633
Inspector	Melissa McMillan
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Surrey County Council
Registered person address	Surrey County Council, Children's & Safeguarding Service Runnymede Centre, Chertsey Road ADDLESTONE Surrey KT15 2EP
Responsible individual	Sheila Jones
Registered manager	Sharon Newton
Date of last inspection	15/01/2015

Inspection date	30/03/2015
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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 **sustained effectiveness**.

Children and young people benefit from a nurturing environment, where staff provide consistency, structure and routine. As a result, children and young people make good progress in all areas including their education, social skills and behaviour. They are able to pursue their individual interests and have access to a wide range of activities. This enables them to extend their social experiences and develop new skills, boosting their confidence. Staff facilitate contact to allow children and young people to maintain and build on relationships with people who are important to them. This supports them to maintain a sense of belonging and to develop an understanding of their backgrounds and identity.

Staff have a good knowledge of children and young people's needs and are able to demonstrate an understanding of why they behave in a particular way. As a result, staff are able to effectively support them with their developmental needs. Children and young people are able to form positive relationships with adults and feel confident and able to speak about their feelings. They are encouraged to make decisions about their care. Staff assist them to contribute to their care plans and reviews. Care plans identify children's and young people's individual needs and preferences, and provide details on strategies to support them to make progress.

Children and young people are able to talk about their frustrations and are supported to manage these constructively. Staff focus on praise, reward and a restorative approach to address behaviours that are not accepted. This has been successful in reducing incidents of harmful behaviour. Staff have a good understanding of young people's behaviours and their triggers. They are adept at minimising risk and deescalating potential harmful behaviour. Incidents of physical interventions are recorded in line with regulation.

Staff liaise closely with health, educational settings and placing social workers, to

ensure children and young people's support is co-ordinated to maximise their potential. Staff have provided guidance and support to children and young people to develop a better understanding of their health needs. As a result, children and young people have taken on more responsibility for their health and they are supported to make positive choices. However, staff are not always giving medication correctly; this is because on one occasion a young person received a higher dose than prescribed. Although this did not affect the young person, the error was also not identified by staff compromising their ability to respond appropriately if the young person's health had deteriorated.

The Registered Manager advised that funding for the redecoration of part of the home has been agreed and should commence shortly. As a result, a previous recommendation relating to the children's bathroom cannot be appraised on this visit.

Information about this children's home

The home, which is owned and managed by a local authority, provides care and accommodation for up to five children with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
15/01/2015	Full	outstanding
27/03/2014	Interim	good progress
14/11/2013	Full	outstanding
12/02/2013	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
21 (2001)	ensure any medicines which is prescribed for a child is administered as prescribed (Regulation 21 (2) (b)).	27/04/2015

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure the home provides a comfortable and homely environment and is well maintained and decorated, specifically, improve the children's bathroom. (NMS 10.3)

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.