

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC040642
Inspector	Liz Driver
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	Louise Warren
Registered manager	Navjyot Kaur Dhanoa
Date of last inspection	20/08/2014

Inspection date	11/03/2015
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 **improved effectiveness**.

At the last inspection carried out in August 2014, one recommendation was made and this has been addressed by the Registered Manager. A written protocol is in place relating to the use of door alarms if used. Individual consents from social workers and the young people cover the use of door alarms and the use of external close circuit television cameras.

The highly committed and effective management team continue to develop their practices and procedures across many areas, specifically in child sexual exploitation and drug misuse. Training on sexual exploitation and e-safety continues to be a priority at this service as staff are dealing with these issues on a daily basis. The Registered Manager is influential in ensuring the multi professional approach, and their active involvement in assessing risks and managing current and historic disclosures. As a result, relationships between agencies such as the police and youth offending services now ensure robust responses are taken to all actual or potential risks of sexual exploitation. In addition, comprehensive risk assessments identifying all risks indicators of sexual exploitation are reviewed every two weeks and sent to individual social workers monthly. They are also shared with external agencies in the multi-agency meetings held regularly. Monthly meetings with the local police officer ensure the home is aware of activity in the local community and keeps the police up to date with individual risks for each young person.

Young people are very happy at this home and enjoy the safe environment staff provide. They are hugely active in the running of the home including choosing fabrics and furnishings and putting forward suggestions that the staff take seriously. Young people enjoy raising monies for different charities and successfully put on a number of events. The young people soon settle in after arrival and feel very much part of a community. The stable and experienced staff team build up excellent trusting relationships with young people who enjoy their company, guidance and

support. Young people who have left since the last inspection are highly praising of the home, the staff and the care they received. Young people who have been admitted have settled in very quickly with significant progress seen across many areas such as a decrease in being late home, and in the misuse of substances.

The service has developed a new advocacy tool known as 'mind of my own' (MOMO) that is currently being introduced into resident meetings and key worker sessions. This will add to the existing avenues for young people to raise concerns and be represented.

Young people's attendance and engagement in education, paid and charity work has significantly improved whilst at the home. Staff work closely with colleges and local employers to ensure young people develop life skills they will need as an adult. As a result, young people do extremely well with many examples of exceeding their potential. The service has an adjoining flat, recently upgraded where young people can experience semi-independence life whilst still having the support and guidance of staff.

The Registered Manager continues to be effective in monitoring the quality of care and professional practice the young people receive. She is not afraid to challenge external agencies and is clear in her duties as a manager, and her drive for the best possible care. She is driven by ensuring young people are listened to, taken seriously and enabled to move into adult life successfully.

No requirements or recommendations have been made as a result of this inspection.

Information about this children's home

The children's home is owned and managed by a local authority. It provides accommodation for up to seven young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/08/2014	Full	outstanding
25/03/2014	Interim	good progress
03/12/2013	Full	good
25/02/2013	Interim	good progress

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.