

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC049189
Inspector	Sarah Oldham
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Care Today (Children's Services) Ltd
Registered person address	Care Today Children's Services, Lansdowne House 85 Buxton Road STOCKPORT Cheshire SK2 6LR
Responsible individual	Vivien Anne Snape
Registered manager	Dave Deric Edwards
Date of last inspection	21/02/2014

Inspection date	28/08/2014
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Previous inspection	satisfactory progress
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

This inspection

This home was judged adequate at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection the home was '**not judged**'.

The home has not provided accommodation to children and young people since April 2014. This inspection focuses on whether the children's home is ready to accept placement of young people. A review of records previously used has been undertaken to ensure when children and young people have been placed, clear information is available to detail the outcomes for these young people.

The home has a Registered Manager in place since 2007. He is suitably qualified, with NVQ 4 Caring for Children and Young People, and the Registered Managers award. He is currently undertaking some additional work at the organisations head office whilst the home does not have any young people in placement. Some of the previous staff team have been redeployed in other children's homes run by the same company. The manager is currently in the process of undertaking additional recruitment of staff. This is to ensure that the home has a range of staff with the necessary qualifications and skills to meet the needs of any young person placed at the home in accordance with the home's statement of purpose. The manager has a clear understanding of his role and responsibilities. These include ensuring that staff have access to on-going training and development, regular supervision and regular team meetings.

The home is maintained to a good standard. Whilst there have been no young people placed at the home, this has provided the opportunity to undertake decoration and maintenance throughout the home. When any young people are placed at the home, they are encouraged and supported to choose the décor of their room to enable it to be personalised and reflect their individual interests. The manager undertakes regular checks of the home, including the fire and health and safety equipment.

In addition to the managers' visits, the independent visitor to the home continues to

undertake monthly visits to ensure that the home has the appropriate resources for when a young person is admitted.

As a result of this inspection a requirement has been made with regard to staffing when a young person is placed at the home.

Information about this children's home

The home provides care and accommodation for up to three young people, who may be experiencing emotional or behavioural difficulties. The home is owned and managed by a private company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/02/2014	Interim	satisfactory progress
18/07/2013	Full	adequate
27/02/2013	Interim	satisfactory progress
14/12/2012	Interim	not judged

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
25 (2001)	ensure that there is at all times, having regard to the size of the children's home, the statement of purpose, and the needs of the children accommodated there; and the need to safeguard and promote the health and welfare of the children accommodated in the home, a sufficient number of suitably qualified, competent and experienced persons working at the children's home (Regulation 25 (1)(a)(b)).	30/10/2014

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.