

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	17/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC059853
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council
Registered person address	Town Hall, Victoria Square, PO Box 29, BOLTON, BL1 1RU

Responsible individual	Sarah Gatenby
Registered manager	Neil Haydock
Inspector	Caroline Jones

Inspection date	17/03/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Outstanding
Enforcement action since last inspection	None
This inspection	
The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection This home was judged Outstanding at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has sustained effectiveness. Young people continue to have a rich experience during their short break stay here. They are socialising, making friends and participating in a wide range of activities and opportunities to build skills and confidence. For instance, they are part of local community gardening groups, car boot fund raising events and visit parks and beaches regularly. Furthermore, new activity programmes are being planned for summer, which they are fully involved in. The staff have excellent relationships with young people, their families and partner agencies. This partnership working ensures that all information is shared so that each young person's likes, dislikes, and personal needs are understood to inform care planning. They are safe during their stay at the home and complex behaviours continue to be exceptionally well managed, resulting in no physical interventions. Young people are new to the home since the last inspection. Thorough care planning and introductory 'tea' visits are part of the process. Moreover, a staff member is taking a young person to a football match to build relationships and confidence in spending time away from home. Young people are also moving on to adult services and leaving parties provide an enjoyable ending to their journey here. The stable staff team here are qualified and highly experienced in working with young people with disabilities. They receive regular training, supervision and team meetings to keep them up-to-date with emerging care practice. They enjoy working with young people and this provides for a very happy and welcoming home environment. Quality assurance systems are in place including, a detailed review of care practice and independent monitoring provides further scrutiny. These systems set the direction for further development. Records are maintained within the home and stored securely to protect young people's privacy. Although, these would benefit from more clarity and fact to ensure smooth communication and information sharing.	

Information about this children's home

This is a local authority short break children's home. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to six young people with physical disabilities and learning disabilities.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/03/2015	CH - Interim	improved effectiveness
05/02/2015	CH - Full	Outstanding
14/03/2014	CH - Interim	Satisfactory Progress
30/07/2013	CH - Full	Good

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

Recommendations

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

- Ensure that children's case records are clearly recorded. (The Guide 14.3 -14.5)

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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