

Inspection report for children's home

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|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b> | SC061837        |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Julia Wright    |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | Interim         |
| <b>Provision subtype</b>       | Children's home |

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|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Registered person</b>         | Archways Care Ltd                                                                |
| <b>Registered person address</b> | Badgers Rest, Stourbridge Road Parkgate<br>KIDDERMINSTER Worcestershire DY10 3PT |
| <b>Responsible individual</b>    | Christopher John Aristidou                                                       |
| <b>Registered manager</b>        | Ainsphia Cibrina Butler                                                          |
| <b>Date of last inspection</b>   | 17/07/2014                                                                       |

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <b>Inspection date</b> | 15/01/2015 |
|------------------------|------------|

|                                          |      |
|------------------------------------------|------|
| Previous inspection                      | good |
| Enforcement action since last inspection | none |

## This inspection

This home was judged good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has **sustained effectiveness**.

At the last inspection, the home was judged to be good with one requirement and one recommendation made. The outcome of this inspection is that both the requirement and recommendation have been met. Young people continue to make good progress at the home.

Suitable, trained and competent staff provide young people with clear structure and support during their placements. Risk assessments and safety plans are thorough and kept up to date in response to young people's changing situations. This ensures that the needs of young people are clearly identified, and that staff work together with young people to promote positive outcomes for them. Consultation with young people is part of a process of continuous improvement, with staff regularly considering new ways of communicating more effectively in order to meet the individual needs of each young person.

Young people receive proactive support with their education. Some young people attend school full time and make good progress. Where young people are not in education or training, staff work with young people to identify suitable opportunities that interest them. This includes college placements or work experience. As a result, young people's learning and development are maximised.

The home is in a period of transition reflecting the ages and stages of the young people, some of whom are moving to semi-independence placements. Staff support young people's moves to semi-independent living through structured independence plans that aim to provide advice and support to each young person. Staff assess when young people are able to take more responsibility for areas of their life whilst maintaining an overview of their safety and welfare. As a result, young people's confidence and skills grow as they move towards independence and adulthood.

Staff continue to prioritise the safety of young people. They regularly talk to young people about keeping themselves safe. This includes helping them to identify and be aware of risks, and protective factors and behaviours needed to promote their own safety and well-being. This helps young people develop insight and self – confidence. As a result, young people's safety is improved. Behaviour management is effective. There is minimal use of physical intervention. Young people respond well overall to boundaries and this helps young people modify their behaviour and attitudes. This contributes to the development of positive social relationships and interaction. Young people say, 'I love it here, I want to stay.'

There have been changes in the staff team but the Registered Manager continues to ensure that these changes do not have a negative impact on the young people. The Registered Manager demonstrates good leadership skills and has a good understanding of the priorities for the home and areas for development. These include developing community links further, and continuing to develop the work undertaken with young people working towards independence. The Registered Manager and staff team demonstrate a continued commitment to improve the quality of care and outcomes for young people. Social workers say 'It is a very good home, my young person has made very good progress there'.

The home environment continues to be monitored regularly, ensuring everyone's safety is prioritised. Work is ongoing to improve common areas of the home through the purchase of new furniture and equipment. There is a minor shortfall where a broken window has not been repaired. This does not have an impact on the care of the young people.

## Information about this children's home

This privately owned home offers services for up to four children and young people, with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 17/07/2014      | Full            | good                 |
| 28/01/2014      | Interim         | good progress        |
| 06/11/2013      | Full            | good                 |
| 07/11/2012      | Interim         | good progress        |

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

### 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. In particular that there are no broken windows.

## **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.