

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	17/02/2016
Unique reference number	SC063318
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Good Foundations Limited
Registered person address	6 Tower Quays, Tower Road, Birkenhead, Merseyside, CH41 1BP

Responsible individual	Andrew Mannix
Registered manager	Helen Beaumont
Inspector	Elaine Allison

Inspection date	17/02/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Requires improvement
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 Requires improvement at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has improved effectiveness. Six requirements and one recommendation were made at the last inspection in July 2015. All with the exception of one requirement have been met. Placement plans although, remodelled, continue to lack clarification as to individual needs. For example, one plan stated that the young person used cannabis; there was no indication on the plan on how staff were going to address this. Some plans highlight a lack of understanding by those writing and monitoring plans as to what makes a well-structured placement plan. As a result, individual needs have not always been effectively co-ordinated. The requirement made at the last inspection remains to ensure that plans are appropriately structured, and clearly guide required care arrangements. Since the last inspection the home has made stronger links with the education providers for the young people. Staff now challenge decisions in order to get the best for young people. For example, in ensuring that all young people receive their full entitlement to an educational provision. This ensures that issues and decisions involved in the day to day care provided for young people are not allowed to drift. Young people who previously refused to attend education are now in full time education. There are now clear individual protocols in place for staff to follow in the event that young people are missing from the home or absent without permission. Young people, their parents and placing authorities are very clear that these strategies have ensured incidents have significantly reduced. All staff now receive regular supervision which focuses on the young people. Staff understand clearly their individual roles in achieving the aims and objectives of the home. New staff to the home are now fully induction and supported in their roles.	

Young people continue to progress. Staff are supportive and nurturing and help and assist young people through changes in their lives. They are helped to settle in their home whilst maintaining contact with family and friends, reinforcing bonds with important people in their lives.

Young people reflect positively about the care that they receive, young people said 'this is the best home that I have lived in', 'we have a lovely house and lovely staff' and 'it's great living here'. Each young person readily confirmed they enjoy spending time with staff. One young person was looking forward to going to Liverpool football ground tour on the day of the inspection. Behaviour is well managed. Staff use their positive relationships to encourage young people to reflect and learn from situations that arise.

There is a very low use of sanctions. Staff understand the known and potential risks for each young person. This knowledge and the effective use of broad risk management strategies keep young people safe. Progress includes, a reduction in required levels of supervision, improved self-management of behaviours and young people becoming more independent.

The registered manager continues to improve the service for the young people's benefit. She demonstrates good leadership skills and has made considerable improvements to the running of the home. Staff feel supported and focussed on improving the lives of the young people in their care.

Information about this children's home

This is a children's home for up to four young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties or learning disabilities. The home is managed by a private company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/12/2015	CH - Full	Requires improvement
28/01/2015	CH - Interim	declined in effectiveness
24/06/2014	CH - Full	Outstanding
18/03/2014	CH - Interim	Satisfactory Progress

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

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 (England) Regulations 2015 and the *Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards*. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
14: The care planning standard In order to meet the care planning standard the registered person must ensure that children; 14. (1) (a) receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home. In particular, ensure staff are provided with robust individual care planning documents for each child	14/03/2016

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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