

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC063380
Inspector	Julian Mason
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Family Care Associates Limited
Registered person address	60 School Lane Bamber Bridge PRESTON PR5 6QE
Responsible individual	Andrew O'Reilly
Registered manager	Andrea Ivy Maria Turner
Date of last inspection	22/01/2015

Inspection date	16/03/2015
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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**.

The last inspection made one requirement and one recommendation, which have both been addressed. The service's location risk assessment has been reviewed and updated to help determine appropriate arrangements for meeting each young person's needs. The home's interior is benefiting from improvements to its décor and furnishings, which is currently in the process of being completed.

Since the last inspection, some changes have occurred with some young people leaving and new young people arriving. Those who left the home were provided with the right support to move on which matched their needs and circumstances. Some placements were short in duration and did cause some disruption because of young people's behaviour and lack of cooperation and engagement. Current placements are now stable with young people making good progress in many aspects of their lives. Attendance and engagement at school is generally good, risk taking behaviours have reduced and interactions between young people and staff are supportive and friendly.

Staff act as good role models to help shape and influence behavioural boundaries that respect everyone. Young people are able to talk about their past experiences and backgrounds which help them identify aspects of their lives that they wish to improve. Young people are also fully supported to take greater control over their daily lives and be more responsible for themselves and the choices they make. Staff are flexible and accommodating, providing the right balance of supervision and freedom that matches the planned progress and personal development for each young person.

Young people are able to develop their own friendships and place in the local community. Staff promote the use of independent time away from the home as a way of increasing personal responsibility and independence. Young people are

developing a good range of practical skills for independent living because staff follow tailored plans that are aimed at building skills and confidence.

Staff are very alert to the risks young people may face. For example, strategies are well deployed to ensure they maintain regular contact with young people while they are away from the home on free time. Careful monitoring of friends and acquaintances are robust which includes checking their details when necessary. This approach helps to minimise risks and keep young people safe from harm.

Young people benefit from staff being able to work in partnership with local agencies and services. The staff team are very knowledgeable about what is available and they are experienced at working with a range of people such as social workers, teachers and other professionals providing support services. They act as strong advocates, promoting each young person's needs and wishes when required or asked to do so.

Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned children's home. The home accommodates up to four young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
22/01/2015	Full	good
07/03/2014	Interim	good progress
06/08/2013	Full	good
04/02/2013	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.