

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	21/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC063814
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Break
Registered person address	Davison House, 1 Montague Road, Sheringham, Norfolk, NR26 8WN

Responsible individual	Hilary Richards
Registered manager	Janet North
Inspector	Michael Mulvaney

Inspection date	21/03/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Good
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 Good at the full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judge that it has Improved effectiveness. The manager has met the recommendations set at the previous inspection. Specific training has been held with the staff group in respect of the risks in the community should young people go missing from the home. The manager has also reviewed the processes for ensuring that the local authority complete a return interview when a young person has been missing or absent from the home. Consequently, young people are better protected from these risks. Young people feel safe in this home. One young person said: 'I feel safe as the staff spend one to one time where I can talk about any worries. The staff are here and they have a night time routine to secure the house, which makes me feel safe.' A placing social worker commented: 'This home is very thorough in terms of safeguarding.' There has been one incident of a young person going missing since the last inspection. Staff have completed updated training to look at the concerns and risks in the community, particularly from exploitation. Staff follow the policy to alert external agencies, particularly the police, to ensure that young people can be located and returned to the home. Direct work has taken place with young people when they have returned to help understand the reasons why the young person went missing. Since the previous inspection there have been no complaints made regarding the service provided in this home. The manager has not had to consult the local authority safeguarding officer with regard to any concerns. No young people have left since the last inspection but two young people have been welcomed to the home in this time. Careful assessments took place prior to these young people coming to live in the home. This meant that staff knew and understood how to meet their needs. Introductions, including tea time visits and meeting with the staff, took place ahead of the admissions. This helped the young people to settle quickly into the home. One social worker commented: 'Staff are very good at meeting her emotional needs and supporting her to manage her self-harming behaviours. For example, they have given her a coping box as a strategy	

to help her, which is working really well.'

Young people have continued to make good progress because they live in this home. Some young people have begun their pathway plans towards independence whilst others, who have moved in recently, have started to explore the community around the home. One young person has progressed very well in a short space of time. Having recently moved from a hospital placement, staff have supported her to settle in. They have used individual one-to-one key work sessions to develop a close working relationship and begin to understand her needs. Because of this work, plans are in place to further reduce her medication and increase her access to education. This will be positive, as she has not engaged in formal education for over two years. Staff are very committed to promoting education. Some young people have 100% attendance at school and are progressing towards GCSE grades. This will help them to progress towards further education if this is the chosen route for them. Other young people are making steady progress in school.

There have been three restraints since the previous inspection. Staff have received training to intervene physically if young people are likely to harm themselves. Staff have reflected on these incidents to look at other ways to manage the presenting behaviours. The manager has reviewed the records and completed de-briefs with staff and young people. This ensures that the intervention has been appropriate.

Staff have supported young people to form positive relationships in the community outside of the home. Young people engage in community meetings to discuss activities. These include trips to the cinema, day trips to the beach and to cafés. Young people have the opportunity to earn extra activities through positive behaviour. This has seen young people's conduct improve.

The manager critically analyses the case recordings completed by staff. She also reviews the direct work with young people to ensure that progress is being made.

Staff receive good quality supervision, which focuses on the safe-care plans for the young people. These meetings also consider the staff's welfare needs and any training that may be required. Staff speak highly of the supervision they receive and value the support of the manager and her deputy.

Information about this children's home

This home provides care and accommodation for up to four children and young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties, aged between 7 and 17 years and is owned by a registered charity.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/10/2015	Full	Good
19/03/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
17/12/2014	Full	Good
04/03/2014	Interim	Good progress

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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