

## **Children's homes - interim inspection**

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|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | <b>29/01/2016</b>      |
| <b>Unique reference number</b> | <b>SC065855</b>        |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | <b>Interim</b>         |
| <b>Provision subtype</b>       | <b>Children's home</b> |
| <b>Registered manager</b>      | <b>Post vacant</b>     |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | <b>Lisa Walsh</b>      |

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| <b>Inspection date</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>29/01/2016</b> |
| <b>Previous inspection judgement</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Good</b>       |
| <b>Enforcement action since last inspection</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>None</b>       |
| <b>This inspection</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                   |
| <p><b>The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection</b></p> <p>This home was judged <b>Good</b> at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has <b>sustained effectiveness</b>.</p> <p>The home has sustained effectiveness since the last inspection in April 2015. The two requirements made at the time have been met. The home continues to develop, which in turn, has led to good outcomes for young people.</p> <p>Young people continue to receive a comprehensive assessment of their needs. The manager and staff team understand the importance and value of completing excellent assessments of young people's needs.</p> <p>The care provided to young people continues to support and encourage them to develop their self-esteem and confidence, which in turn, allows them to make positive choices.</p> <p>Young people who are new to the home have experienced carefully planned and sensitive admissions to the home. Staff work in partnership with placing authorities and other relevant professionals to plan transitions and admissions. The home ensure that they are transparent with young people about the objective of the placement. They support them to understand possible outcomes of assessment and this enable's young people to participate and have their views heard. This process supports effective transitions.</p> <p>Young people are not engaged in risk-taking behaviours, they are safe and enjoy living at the home. Behaviour management strategies are effective and this means there are rarely physical restraints and minimal sanctions. Young people do not currently go missing. However, historically when young people have gone missing the staff have acted swiftly to secure their safe return. On young people's returning, work is carried out with them to prevent further recurrence.</p> <p>Young people continue to attend full-time education and enjoy a good range of activities. Staff have high aspirations for young people. They work in partnership with education providers in order to promote their outcomes.</p> <p>Young people are safe and feel safe. The staff refer any safeguarding incidents to</p> |                   |

the relevant safeguarding professionals and Designated Officer.

Staff respond to bullying behaviour proactively. This includes covering bullying in resident meetings, completing workshops and individual work. Staff also utilise support from partner agencies such as the police. Community police officers visit regularly to talk to young people about acceptable behaviours and the consequences of poor behaviour, bullying or intimidation. Views around the issue of bullying are secured. One young person said, 'staff helped me sort out a bullying issue after I made a complaint'.

The behaviours of some young people have been challenging during placement. Despite this staff remain committed and try their best to continue to develop positive relationships. A previous resident sent a thank you card to staff, he said 'thank you for having me and putting up with my behaviour, I will miss you all, goodbye'.

Young people have positive relationships with staff and feel safe. One young person said during consultation he likes 'everything' and 'there's nothing to improve', and that 'staff keep him safe'.

Young people benefit from regular one to one work. As a result, they are learning to cope with their emotions and have an understanding of their life histories. Staff work in partnership with a clinical psychologist to ensure that their interventions remain focused to the individual need of young people. A clinical psychologist reported in a feedback that the home was 'excellent'.

Records demonstrate that young people are well supported by a dedicated staff team that are aware of their differing needs. Staff respond to these well. A social worker commented, 'I feel that all staff members treat the young person as an individual. The keyworker promotes cultural needs'.

Good communication systems are in place. A parent comments, 'the home does keep me up to date'.

There is clear management overview and monitoring of the home's quality of care. This helps to ensure young people continue to make good progress. The manager continues to support staff through informal and formal supervisions. Managers demonstrate capacity to improve by consultation and evaluation of the service. Team meetings are interactive with a focus upon development.

The home has recently undergone redecoration and maintenance. The house is now warm, homely and particularly inviting for young people.

## Information about this children's home

The home is registered to provide care for up to 3 young people. The home is a short-term residential provision which provides assessment of young people's needs. Assessment is usually six to eight weeks to determine the young person's longer term needs. The home will extend the placement and period of assessment when in the best interests of the young person to do so. The home is privately owned.

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement    |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 28/04/2015      | CH - Full       | Good                    |
| 03/02/2015      | CH - Interim    | Sustained effectiveness |
| 10/07/2014      | CH - Full       | Good                    |
| 18/03/2014      | CH - Interim    | Satisfactory 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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