

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC066048
Inspector	Anna Williams
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Anderida Adolescent Care Limited
Registered person address	Anderida Adolescent Care Neville Mews, 6A Neville Road EASTBOURNE East Sussex BN22 8HR
Responsible individual	Erica Jane Scott
Registered manager	Ian Williams
Date of last inspection	11/09/2014

Inspection date	11/03/2015
Previous inspection	adequate
Enforcement action since last inspection	None.

This inspection

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

The progress and experiences of young people placed in this home remain mixed. There has been a reduction in episodes of absence from the home, and substance misuse shown by young people. Some young people have engaged in health appointments when they have previously refused. This improves young people's physical health. Contact with young people's families and friends continues to be positive and helps maintain attachments to those important to them.

Young people's attendance at school has recently ceased. The staff team are working closely with the educational establishment to address this. Feedback from teaching professionals includes 'the home has invited the school to a number of their group sessions with their clinical psychologist. This step has been invaluable in ensuring that everyone involved in [child]'s care and education understands the issues faced and is focused on the same goals'. Focused therapeutic work has been undertaken to support young people back into education. It is too early to evaluate the impact of this work, which involved many people from young people's lives reinforcing the same message through face-to-face conversations and video messaging. This shows innovative ways of attempting to engage with young people.

Since the previous inspection, young people and staff have enjoyed a holiday at the organisation's registered children's home in Scotland. This was a successful trip allowing opportunity for young people to take part in outdoor pursuits such as fishing. Staff now risk assess these trips separately and formally in writing. This means that specific risks such as the long drive and contingency planning for staff illness or accident are fully considered. Systems in place for the administration of medication are now improved. Any medication which is no longer required has been removed from the home. Prescribed medication is now given to young people in accordance with the prescription instructions. This protects the health and physical well-being of young people.

Young people are protected by good recruitment checks of new staff. Personnel files now clearly demonstrate how safe recruitment decisions are made and meet regulatory requirements. Significant events relating to the safety and welfare of young people are now consistently shared with Ofsted. All notifications are now completed in a timely manner. This ensures Ofsted is kept up-to-date and supports the regulator's role in evaluating safeguarding arrangements within the home.

Since the previous inspection, fire drills now take place at different times of the day including when young people are sleeping. This ensures staff and young people practice escape plans during night time hours. However, young people do not always cooperate in these evacuations. Staff and external fire safety professionals have spoken to young people about the importance of practising emergency procedures.

The organisation has revised its mobile phone policy and there is now a dedicated mobile phone for the home. This means that staff no longer use their personal mobiles to take photos or transmit data about young people. This suitably protects sensitive information and photos of young people. The Registered Manager now receives regular one to one support from the Responsible Individual. An appraisal of the Registered Manager's practice is booked imminently but has not yet taken place. This ensures the Registered Manager has regular formal performance management to ensure that standards and regulations are being suitably met.

Six requirements and one recommendation set at the previous inspection have been met. However, one recommendation set at the previous inspection remains unmet. There are still no agreed procedures for staff to follow with regard to when to involve the police in incidents of challenging behaviour or damage to property in the home. Advice on this matter has been given to staff during one team meeting. However, without an agreed protocol with the police this still risks an inconsistent approach by staff and potentially unnecessarily criminalising young people.

Information about this children's home

This privately owned children's home is registered to provide care and accommodation for one young person who has emotional and /or behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/09/2014	Full	adequate
22/01/2014	Full	good
16/04/2013	Interim	good progress
10/01/2013	Interim	satisfactory 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's approach to care minimises the need for police involvement to deal with challenging behaviour and avoids criminalising children unnecessarily. Ensure the home follows procedures and guidance on police involvement in the home, which have been agreed by local police. (NMS 3.22)

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.