

# SC066120

Registered provider: Leeds City Council

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

A local authority operates and runs this home. The home provides care for young people who have complex needs, whose plan is to live in a long-term residential setting. There is an acting manager in post who is not yet registered.

**Inspection dates:** 3 October 2018

|                                                                                           |                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account</b> | <b>outstanding</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|

|                                                             |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| How well children and young people are helped and protected | outstanding |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|

|                                           |             |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| The effectiveness of leaders and managers | outstanding |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|

The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

**Date of last inspection:** 8 January 2018

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** outstanding

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement   |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 08/01/2018      | Full            | Outstanding            |
| 13/03/2017      | Interim         | Improved effectiveness |
| 05/01/2017      | Full            | Outstanding            |
| 16/03/2016      | Interim         | Improved effectiveness |

## **Inspection judgements**

### **Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding**

The young people are happy living in this home, which is fully adapted to meet their complex needs. They make outstanding progress in all areas of their development.

The young people have exceptional relationships with the staff. The staff know each young person very well. The staff use their knowledge of each young person to tailor care to their very individual needs.

The young people are all making excellent progress with their education. The staff work closely with schools to make sure that the young people are consistently well supported with their education.

The young people's complex health needs are highly prioritised. The staff are trained to support the young people's specific medical conditions. The staff work with a range of professionals, such as consultants, general practitioners, dieticians, occupational therapists and physiotherapists, to make sure that the young people receive the vital healthcare they need.

The staff strive to ensure that the young people have the best support possible. The staff keep up to date with research to make sure that the young people have the best specialist aids to support them.

The young people make excellent progress with their independence skills. The staff help the young people to take small steps. When taking into account young people's disabilities, these small steps are frequently big achievements.

The young people's life experience significantly improves. The young people are supported to try a range of new experiences, such as holidays and speedboat trips. The young people's social skills improve, and they learn how to spend their leisure time positively. The young people experience a variety of activities, such as attending social balls, trips to the theatre and visits to restaurants.

The young people's opinions are highly valued. The young people are supported to communicate, whatever their level of communication ability. The young people communicate through a range of methods including sign language and symbols. As the young people's communication and self-esteem improve, they start to make their own choices and successfully choose their clothes, decor for the home and their own activities.

### **How well children and young people are helped and protected: outstanding**

The management of risk is robust. The manager is implementing effectively learning from research around risk assessments. The revision of the risk assessment process is

helping the staff to understand risk better, and monitor risks related to each individual.

The young people thrive in a structured environment which is tailored to their individual needs. The young people's anxieties reduce because of the clear routines and boundaries. The staff use their strong relationships and in-depth knowledge of the young people to help manage any incidents of challenging behaviour. Consequently, physical intervention is never used.

High numbers of staff ensure that the young people are always well supervised. The additional protective devices around the building, such as the visual door intercom, ensure that staff can monitor who is coming into the home to make sure that the young people are safe.

Procedures to keep the young people safe are effective. Additional innovative training opportunities are being utilised to help staff develop a more in-depth understanding of safeguarding procedures.

### **The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding**

The manager and deputy manager are ambitious for the young people to achieve their full potential. The manager and deputy manager ensure that the care for the young people is completely individualised. The manager and deputy manager are passionate about providing the best possible experiences for each of the young people. The manager's and deputy manager's enthusiasm and drive for high standards is mirrored by the staff team.

The staff team enjoys its work. The staff members are motivated to do their job because they feel valued as members of the team. The staff members reflect on their practice during regular supervision sessions. This helps them to identify areas of strength and areas they wish to develop.

The staff team has an excellent understanding of the care the young people need. The manager actively seeks a range of training courses and innovative development opportunities to further enhance staff's knowledge.

The young people have access to all the services and specialist equipment they need. The manager works in partnership with a variety of professionals, such as mobility specialists, nutritionists, consultants, social workers, therapists and educational professionals, to make sure that the young people's very complex needs are met.

## **Information about this inspection**

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the differences made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and 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 whom it is trying to help, protect and look after.

Using the 'Social care common inspection framework', this inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, 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'.

## Children's home details

**Unique reference number:** SC066120

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** Leeds City Council

**Registered provider address:** Merion House, 7th Floor West, Merrion Centre, Leeds LS2 8TU

**Responsible individual:** Stephen Walker

**Acting manager** Aasia Hussain

## Inspectors

Jamie Richardson: social care inspector

Cath Sikakana: social care inspector

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Piccadilly Gate  
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