

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	16/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC066120
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Leeds City Council
Registered person address	Leeds City Council, Childrens Services, Merrion House, 110 Merrion Centre, LEEDS, LS2 8DT

Responsible individual	Stephen Walker
Registered manager	William Nealon
Inspector	Stella Henderson

Inspection date	16/03/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Outstanding
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 Outstanding at the full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judge that it has improved effectiveness. Young people continue to build on their excellent progress in relation to their individual milestones. Change and development is often small but nonetheless significant, given the nature of their complex needs. These personal achievements are gained because of the challenge to staff to continually improve and robust scrutiny of the impact of their intervention. As a result, young people continue to experience highly bespoke planning and intervention, enabling them to get the very best out of life. They lead very busy social lives and enjoy the same kind of leisure activities as their peers. Their choices have recently been extended with young people taking up gym classes. In the short period, since the last inspection, staff have participated in a number of training and learning events. This has included attachment and loss, advanced safeguarding as it relates to children with disability, restorative practice and equality and diversity. This ensures young people are cared for by staff who keep their knowledge and skills up to date with current practice and research. Young people's safety and protection continues to be very effectively promoted. Staff carefully assess and balance young people's need for independence with a range of safeguarding considerations. For young people with complex needs, this focuses on helping them to understand, for example, about 'safe touch', supporting them to undertake as much of their personal care as they can, and staff being alert to any unusual changes in young people's behaviour. High staffing ratios combined with high levels of supervision means that no young people are at risk of exploitation and they rarely go missing from the home. Protocols for such incidents have improved since the last inspection. These give clearer instructions to staff and young people are therefore further protected. The recommendation made at the last inspection is therefore met. Strong partnership working continues to ensure young people enjoy consistency in the management of their behaviour and consistency in meeting their needs. This	

includes parents who are a key component of the 'team around the child' approach. Parents are regularly consulted for their opinions by the independent visitor. This assists the visitor to form an opinion as to whether children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted. This is a requirement from the last inspection that has been met.

Monitoring by the manager continues to be extremely thorough, effective and contributes to improved outcomes for young people. This includes ongoing work on the exterior of the property. This is a recommendation from the last inspection that has been met.

Information about this children's home

This is a local authority children's homes. It provides care for up to six young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties and learning disabilities.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
19/01/2016	Full	Outstanding
06/02/2015	Interim	Improved effectiveness
11/09/2014	Full	Good
30/12/2013	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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