

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC066393
Inspector	Andrew Hewston
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person address	Pinnacle House 2 Oakwood Square, Cheadle Royal Business Park CHEADLE Cheshire SK8 3SB
Responsible individual	Michael Ore
Registered manager	Junaid Butt
Date of last inspection	17/12/2014

Inspection date	26/03/2015
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Previous inspection	good
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

This inspection

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

Young people enjoy living within a settled environment where changes in placements are low. Young people that have left the home have done so to ensure that they are receiving the necessary support and are reported to be progressing well. A social worker reported that, 'it has been a pleasure working with the staff.'

The home continues to make progress in a number of areas, with the individual needs of young people remaining the guiding principle of care and practice. For instance an independence programme is in place for older residents, yet this has been put on hold to support exam preparation. Young people have developed in their awareness of personal hygiene and there has been a significant reduction of individuals' absences when compared to previous placements. A young person reported that 'everyone is good and they help me' within a feedback record about the home.

Since the last inspection staff have completed specialist training in ligatures and also training regarding the Child Exploitation and Online Protection centre in preparation to support them for responding to the needs of the young people. Staff state that they are well supported by the management team and that they receive regular guidance in areas that are pertinent to their role.

The suitably qualified and experienced Registered Manager and seniors effectively lead the skilled staff team. Staff are confident in their roles and have excellent knowledge of all young people's plans and routines. External monitoring in line with Regulation 33 provides reflection and challenge to the management team. Manager's monitoring highlights areas for improvement and a development plan is in place to further move forwards the care provided. The development plan is relatively generic and does not highlight issues specific to the home as fully as expected.

Young people's safety is well supported by the staff team. Young people are aware of how to make complaints and access other professionals if they are unhappy about the care that they are receiving. The home's links with the a local advocacy service have helped to support a young person with issues external to the home. Two complaints received since the last inspection have been swiftly responded to, with clear records of the investigation completed and the outcomes which were shared with the young people. This ensures that young people are listened to and their views responded to.

Staff are skilled in the use of behaviour management techniques and this has led to no restraints being necessary at the home since the last inspection. Staff use a greater degree of positive rewards than sanctions to further support appropriate behaviour. Where sanctions are used these link closely to the behaviour concerned so that young people consider responding more positively in the future.

The staff have worked closely with safeguarding teams, the Local Authority Designated Officer, police and social workers to ensure young people are supported. Incidents of young people going missing are well recorded and include discussions on their return in an attempt to decrease future such behaviours.

No recommendations or requirements have been made at this inspection.

Information about this children's home

The home provides care and accommodation for up to three young people who may have emotional or behavioural difficulties. This provision is operated by a large private national organisation specifically to provide services under contract to one local authority.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
17/12/2014	Full	good
17/03/2014	Interim	good progress
26/09/2013	Full	good
15/01/2013	Interim	satisfactory progress

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.