

SC066560

Registered provider: Meadows Care Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This is one of a number of children's homes operated by a private company. The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three children who may have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Inspection date: 12 March 2019

Judgement at last inspection: good

Date of last inspection: 4 July 2018

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 good at the last full inspection.
At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.

Since the last inspection, the registered manager has been absent for a period of time. Prior to her absence, the manager actively reviewed the quality of care. She identified areas for development in the home. The manager had good oversight of the quality of care that the young people receive, and appropriate monitoring systems are in place. The team leaders have stepped up during this time and ensured that most of the management tasks have been covered. Moving forward, a registered manager from another home in the company has now taken over the management of this home.

Young people are at different points in their development, but are all making good progress, relative to their time living in the home. This is because they are well

supported by staff who have a good understanding of their needs.

One young person has moved out of the home in a planned way. She has moved to semi-independent living. This has been a positive move for her. Two other young people have been welcomed into the home and have settled in well.

Young people have made progress in education and are all attending school or college. One young person attending college is aspirational about her future. Inspectors observed staff supporting this young person with her coursework to ensure that she can achieve her potential.

Staff suitably address the needs of young people who self-harm, and the incidents are well managed. There have only been two incidents of physical intervention. These were low-level and used to safeguard the young person from harm.

Young people spoken to during the inspection feel safe and protected living in the home. One young person was frequently going missing in his previous home and he has only gone missing once from this home. Staff work hard with the young people on this issue, and another young person has not had a missing episode since January 2019.

During the inspection, it was noted that staff work well with partner agencies to support the progress of the young people living in the home. There has been close liaison between the staff from the home and staff from the college and school. This has ensured that the young people can access the most suitable timetable to meet their education needs. The young people also benefit from in-house therapists who provide one-to-one support to the young people. The therapists also provide the staff with valuable strategies for caring for the young people.

The staff team has taken effective action to address most of the requirements and recommendations made during the last inspection. Each young person has an identified education provision suitable to their individual needs. Staff benefit from regular supervision and staff now understand what constitutes a regulation 40 notification.

There is evidence of damp in the bathroom, which needs to be rectified, and some house repairs are required. House keys also need to be kept securely to prevent unauthorised access, and a requirement has been made to address these shortfalls.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/07/2018	Full	Good
15/03/2018	Interim	Improved effectiveness
07/11/2017	Full	Requires improvement to be good
21/02/2017	Interim	Improved effectiveness

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'. The registered person(s) must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health. (Regulation 12 (1)(2)(d)) Specifically, repair all the damage and damp in the bathroom, redecorate where necessary and ensure that the house keys are kept securely.	23/04/2019

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.

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.

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: SC066560

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Meadows Care Ltd

Registered provider address: Meadows Care Ltd, Egerton House, Wardle Road, Rochdale OL12 9EN

Responsible individual: Karen Brandon

Registered manager: Kelly Wild

Inspectors

Jenny Brady, social care inspector
Ceri Evans, social care inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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