

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC066560
Inspector	Sarah Oldham
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Meadows Care Limited
Registered person address	Egerton House Wardle Road ROCHDALE Lancashire OL12 9EN
Responsible individual	Niel David Shelmerdine
Registered manager	Lianne Taylor
Date of last inspection	08/10/2014

Inspection date	27/02/2015
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 continue to make good progress in this home. The Registered Manager and staff have been proactive in addressing the recommendation made at the last inspection. This was in relation to learning effective communication skills and having additional training to meet the complex needs of young people living at the home. Additional training has been sourced and attended by staff. This includes understanding autism and communication techniques to ensure young people's complex needs are met and they benefit from a consistent approach from all staff.

Young people's needs are comprehensively assessed by the Registered Manager taking into account the placing authority assessment and specialist therapeutic assessments. This includes all aspects of care, health and educational needs. Young people are fully consulted and contribute to their individual plans. They receive a copy of their placement plan in a format they understand and is meaningful to them. Placement plans are kept under review and updated to reflect changing needs. This means young people benefit from care that is responsive to their needs.

Education is promoted well. When a young person is not in an educational placement, staff follow this up to ensure appropriate schools are identified. While this is taking place, in-house tutors provide an educational programme to progress educational outcomes, enabling young people to obtain qualifications to support positive opportunities in adulthood.

Young people fully contribute their views and wishes about their care and life at the home through regular keyworker sessions and house meetings. This enables them to have a voice in all aspects of their plans and be central to the practice of the home. Recent reviews and comments from a placing social worker and independent reviewing officer acknowledge the significant progress a young person has made in the short time they have lived at the home.

Staff benefit from regular supervision and training as well as support through the organisation's in-house therapist to provide them with knowledge and understanding of young people's behaviours, and strategies to support them to develop emotional resilience. The use of negative sanctions is rarely used but positive praise and rewards encourages and supports young people to reflect on their actions and emotions.

The Registered Manager undertakes robust internal monitoring of the home to ensure positive outcomes for young people as well as making sure the home acts in accordance with its Statement of Purpose. External monitoring of the home is undertaken on a monthly basis with a full report provided to the home identifying any areas for action. This further contributes effective monitoring.

The home is warm, welcoming and comfortably furnished. Young people personalise their bedrooms to reflect their individual interests. This encourages them to take pride in their home, their personal space and belongings.

As results of this inspection, there have been no requirements or recommendations made.

Information about this children's home

This private home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to two young people who may have emotional and behavioural difficulties. The home is also registered to provide education.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
08/10/2014	Full	good
04/02/2014	Interim	satisfactory progress
17/04/2013	Full	good
14/12/2012	Interim	good 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.