

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC066916
Inspector	Elaine Allison
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered manager	Elaine Hilda Cooke
Date of last inspection	23/09/2014

Inspection date	23/03/2015
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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**.

This home has demonstrated its capacity to improve and has improved effectiveness for young people. The requirements and recommendation made at the last full inspection have been met.

Monitoring visits by an independent person now take place on a monthly basis. The manager ensures that any recommendations from these visits are actioned and provides a copy of the monitoring report to Ofsted.

All parts of the children's home used by young people are secure from unauthorised access. Visitors to the home are asked to show identification and sign in the visitors' book. This ensures that young people in the home are safe and well whilst living in the home.

There has been a recent refurbishment of the home which included new carpets for the communal areas. Young people have also been involved in redesigning the living areas, converting the old living room into a games room and refurbishing the living room. This gives young people a sense of pride in their home and adds to a sense of belonging.

Since the last inspection, some young people have left the home. However, this was due to some unexpected circumstances and out of the control of the manager and staff in the home. Some new young people have now been placed in this home and appear to be starting to develop positive relationships with staff. They are also beginning to make progress in some areas of their life, for example, young people are who were previously not in education are now enrolled in full time college courses. The staff ensure that education planning is at the forefront of the initial referral stage for young people. This has resulted in education placements being organised at the commencement of the placement.

Young people's behaviour 'massively' improves and missing episodes have decreased significantly as they engage with the consistent, nurturing and stimulating care provided. The effective use of the positive consequences programme enables young people to learn more appropriate ways of managing their stress and frustrations. This in turn builds feelings of self-worth and self-esteem. All staff are fully trained in appropriate physical intervention techniques.

Partnership working is good. This ensures that everyone involved with a young person is fully informed and they work consistently together to improve outcomes. Health services are appropriately accessed in response to young people's health needs. This ensures they are appropriately addressed and their health outcomes improve.

The home is well managed, which impacts on young people's quality of care. The staff group have been proactive in notifying Ofsted of significant events and have reviewed these to ensure that safeguards are in place for young people. The manager has addressed the requirements and recommendation made at the last inspection. There are no shortfalls identified at this inspection. The manager has a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the provision. This understanding informs the plans for future development of the home.

Information about this children's home

The home provides care and accommodation for up to four young people aged 10 to 17 years, who may experience emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
23/09/2014	Full	good
20/02/2014	Interim	good progress
31/07/2013	Full	good
30/10/2012	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.