

Children's homes - monitoring

Inspection date	31/12/2015
Unique reference number	SC066917
Type of inspection	Monitoring
Inspector	Michelle Moss

This monitoring visit

This monitoring visit has followed an inadequate judgement made at the home's full inspection on 3 November 2015, where concerns were identified about young people's overall progress and experience.

Key concerns included shortfalls in safeguarding, extending to the vetting of staff, hazards identified in the grounds and weaknesses in behaviour management. There were also concerns over decisions made over admissions, education and the health needs of young people.

The manager has taken swift action to address raised concerns. The staff have consulted a young person's doctor and ensured they receive key health information. By holding this information, staff are more able to ensure young people receive all the necessary help and support they need to optimise their physical well-being.

The manager has ensured all the necessary steps are in place for referring any safeguarding or child protection concerns to the appropriate agencies. This has given a more comprehensive response to any significant event which means young people and staff stay appropriately protected.

Staff are increasingly alert to a change in procedure for managing behaviour where physical intervention techniques are required. The introduction of a new recording system and policy is helping to ensure all staff follow the same good practice.

Safer recruitment practice has been enhanced with increased checks being carried out where staff have previously worked with children or vulnerable adults.

The home's statement of purpose has been reviewed and the manager is well ahead in completing his six month review on the quality of care.

The provider has plans in place to have an outbuilding on the grounds removed. Until this is completed, the manager has reviewed risk assessments to ensure young people are kept safe.

The educational progress of young people continues to move upwards with no significant dips in attendance. Staff are actively supporting a young person in school to ensure their learning opportunities are optimised. The manager is challenging all professionals to ensure the learning needs of young people are fully met.

There have been no new admissions to the home. The manager is clear over the importance of comprehensive matching so that no young person's progress is compromised.

Information about this children's home

The home provides care and accommodation for up to 2 children with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home is owned and operated by a private provider.

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the home since their last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

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