

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	21/02/2017
Unique reference number	SC067839
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Future In Mind Limited
Registered provider address	Future In Mind Limited, 65 Market Street, Hednesford, Cannock, Staffordshire WS12 1AD

Responsible individual	Maria Taylor
Registered manager	Post vacant
Inspector	Michelle Spruce

Inspection date	21/02/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Outstanding
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 outstanding at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness. The home was last inspected in August 2016. One requirement was made. The manager has taken action to address the shortfall. During this inspection five requirements were raised. The home is judged as having sustained effectiveness. The statement of purpose has now been amended. There is now reference to the use of electronic devices used for the purpose of safeguarding to monitor children and young people during the night. There has been a change to the management arrangements since the last full inspection. The registered manager resigned in October 2016. A new manager has been appointed. She is suitably qualified and experienced. An application to register has been made to Ofsted. During a recent incident, staff failed to follow medical guidance to provide a young person immediate access to the emergency services. Although the young person was eventually taken to the hospital, the lack of action from staff delayed her access to treatment. This means not all staff take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child or young person's welfare. As a result, the welfare of children and young people may be compromised. The manager did not provide a notification to Ofsted following a serious incident which happened during a weekend. The notification was being drafted at the time of the inspection, four days later. This compromises the information sharing and may delay the action that needs to be taken. No action has been taken to safeguard staff who are sleeping in a bedroom that has mould growing on the walls. Although an alternative bedroom is available, staff continue to use the bedroom for sleep-in duties. This does not protect them from hazards to their health. The fire risk assessment does not cross reference to the fire log book. For example, the location of fire equipment is not located where it says it should be. The two documents provide conflicting information. Although there is sufficient equipment	

to support fire prevention, there is confusion about where it should be located. As a result, firefighting equipment is not located in the identified location. The manager has not identified this shortfall during her routine monitoring of the home.

Following a significant event, information about the event was not appropriately recorded. The director of care confirms that the placing authority was informed at the time of the incident. However, there was no evidence to substantiate this. The social worker confirms that in general the manager keeps her up to date, but on this occasion was not provided with any information. The social worker also confirmed that she has no concerns about the care the service provides.

Two young people are resident. One young person has been living at the home for nearly four years. Both young people say they are happy and enjoy living at the home. During the inspection one young person was getting ready to go to football camp and another was preparing to go swimming. The staff plan in advance for the holiday periods to ensure that young people have a range of activities to keep them occupied. As a result, young people access the community and make friends.

Both young people access education. The staff can't praise them enough for their attendance and commitment. A social worker commented on a young person's education and said, 'He is doing really well.' Young people's achievements are celebrated. A young person had decorated her bedroom wall with certificates to show how proud she was.

Young people continue to have good relationships with each other and staff. A social worker said, 'She will listen to staff. She has good relationships with them.' Since the last inspection staff have noticed improvements in the behaviour of young people. Young people have become more mature in their attitudes and have begun to set examples for each other. For example, when a young person is distressed or unhappy the other young person tries to comfort them by showing empathy. As a result, they become positive role models.

The manager has improved the oversight of some areas of the home by implementing a shift planner. Staff are more accountable and mindful of their responsibilities. As a result, records are completed in more detail and tasks are completed as required. Team meetings are now more interactive. The manager has started to use visual aids such as a white board to engage staff participation. As a result, staff are more actively involved in shaping the future of the service.

Information about this children's home

This children's home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to two young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home is privately owned and the organisation operates other children's homes in the area.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/08/2016	Full	Outstanding
31/03/2016	Interim	Improved effectiveness
27/01/2016	Full	Good
13/03/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person meets 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 must comply with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The registered person must ensure that staff seek to involve each child's placing authority effectively in the child's care, in accordance with the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 5(a))	31/03/2017
12. The protection of children standard: In order to meet the protection of children standard the registered person must ensure that— (2)(a)(vi) staff take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare.	31/03/2017
12. The protection of children standard: In order to meet the protection of children standard the registered person must ensure that— (2)(d) 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(2)(d))	31/03/2017
The registered person must maintain in the home the records in Schedule 4 and ensure that the records are kept up to date. (Regulation 37(2)(a)(b) Schedule 4(6))	31/03/2017
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40(4)(e))	31/03/2017

What the inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspection 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

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference that adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, 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.

This 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 Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'.

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