

# SC356864

**Timeout Children's Homes Limited**

Monitoring visit

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 two children who may have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

If required, children can access the organisation's school and therapy department.

The manager was registered with Ofsted on 17 December 2020. She also manages another home within the organisation, which is near this home.

**Inspection date:** 4 February 2021

## **This monitoring visit**

This visit took place off site and included a virtual tour of the home. The child living in the home was spoken to during the visit. The focus of the visit was to ensure that children are safe and to measure the progress made since the last inspection, on 18 December 2019.

The home is a welcoming and nurturing environment for children. Recent renovations have given it a modern feel. It is clean, tidy and decorated to a high standard throughout. The child living in the home has been supported to develop a sense of belonging. He chose how his room is decorated and his interests and photographs are displayed in communal areas.

The child benefits from positive, trusting relationships with staff who understand his needs. Staff work therapeutically alongside the organisation's therapy and school teams to provide a wrap-around package of care.

The child is happy living in the home. Those around him recognise the progress he is making and are highly positive about the care he is receiving. His social worker said, 'What they provide is fantastic; they are enabling him to be a child.'

Safeguarding practices are strong. Individualised risk and behaviour management plans are detailed and robust. They reflect the child's vulnerabilities and risks and are regularly updated. Professionals say they know the child is safe. They are kept updated through excellent communication from the team.

Education is well promoted. The child attends full time and is making positive progress at school. In the home, staff create opportunities for learning and are helping him to develop age-appropriate life skills. Routines during the day and night are clear and consistent, giving the child a sense of stability and security.

Health needs are understood. The team works closely with other professionals to ensure the child's physical and emotional health needs are being met. Specialist advice is accessed as required.

The challenges faced due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic are well managed. There are clear procedures and hygiene practices in place. The child has been able to safely maintain friendships with others in his school bubble and keep in touch with people who are important to him, through phone calls and socially distanced outdoor visits.

The home has an experienced and qualified registered manager. She has strong oversight, clear expectations and is implementing a number of changes to improve outcomes. Monitoring systems are in place and improvements have been made to the quality of the records kept in the home. It was identified during the visit that the organisation's policy relating to their electronic recording system does not reflect the current situation in relation to accessing information remotely. The registered manager and responsible individual are taking action to address this.

The home has experienced a number of staffing changes and the registered manager is continuing to develop the team. A core staff team works across both homes managed by the manager. Recruitment is ongoing and any gaps are filled by suitably skilled and experienced bank staff employed by the organisation. Staff say they feel supported. They recognise the positive changes that the manager is implementing and feel they benefit from quality, reflective supervisions and relevant training. Any issues are appropriately dealt with and disciplinary processes are robust.

Three requirements and three recommendations were made at the last inspection. Suitable action has been taken to address all of these.

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement    |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 18/12/2019      | Full            | Good                    |
| 15/01/2019      | Full            | Good                    |
| 23/05/2017      | Full            | Good                    |
| 18/01/2017      | Interim         | Sustained effectiveness |

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

### Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that the organisation's policy relating to the electronic recording system is updated to reflect the current situation in relation to accessing information remotely. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 14.2)

### Information about this inspection

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

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

### Children's home details

**Unique reference number:** SC356864

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** Timeout Children's Homes Limited

**Registered provider address:** Unit 2, Mill Fold, Ripponden, Sowerby Bridge HX6 4DH

**Responsible individual:** Dominic Macauley

**Registered manager:** Lauren Birkett

### Inspector

Caroline Bertram, Social Care Inspector

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