

SC356864

Registered provider: Time-Out Children's Homes Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned home is registered to provide care for up to two children. The provider states in its statement of purpose that care is provided for children who may have severe emotional and behavioural difficulties. At the time of the inspection, one child was living in the home. The child spoke to the inspector about their experiences of living in the home.

The manager registered with Ofsted on 17 December 2020.

Inspection dates: 20 and 21 February 2023

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	outstanding
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	outstanding
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding
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The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

Date of last inspection: 25 January 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
25/01/2022	Full	Good
18/12/2019	Full	Good
15/01/2019	Full	Good
23/05/2017	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

The child living in the home is making exceptional progress in all areas of their life. They are happy living in the home and told the inspector, 'I love being here.' The child is supported to develop positive, nurturing relationships with staff who care.

The team works closely with other professionals to ensure the child is reaching their potential. They support the child to attend school, and with their learning. As a result, the child is enjoying education and their attendance and attainment have significantly improved.

Staff have high aspirations for the child. There is a consistent approach to using research-informed practice between the organisation's home, school and clinical teams. This approach helps the child to make informed decisions and to better understand their emotions. Professionals are highly complimentary about the child's progress and the level of care provided by the team.

Staff have developed exceptionally positive relationships with the child's family. They support the local authority plans for the child and maintain family relationships well.

Staff proactively learn about things the child is interested in. This enables them to support the child to pursue a range of interests in the home and in the community. The child has opportunities to attend leisure activities and clubs to further develop their social networks and peer relationships. The team creatively captures these times, meaning the child has memories to look back on and cherish.

The child has been involved in the creation of a daily, game-based rewards system, where extra treats and activities can be awarded for positive behaviours. The child is invested in this creative incentive and takes pride in their achievements. This promotes the child's confidence and self-esteem.

The home is comfortable and well furnished. Adaptions made to reduce potential hazards in the home do not detract from the homely feel. The child's bedroom is personalised and decorated with age-appropriate characters chosen by the child. Through extremely well-planned direct work, the child has been able to display family photos around the home. This enables the child to develop a sense of belonging in the home.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: outstanding

The child's safety and well-being are at the centre of staff's practice. The team has an excellent understanding of the child's risks and vulnerabilities. Plans are detailed and include highly effective strategies for staff to follow to keep the child safe.

Staff know how to respond to the child. Practice in the home is underpinned by the secure base model. Behaviour management strategies are child-centred and focus on staff using supportive words and modelling positive behaviours and emotions. This helps the child to regulate their own emotions and make safer choices. As a result, there has been a significant reduction in incidents of staff needing to hold the child to keep them safe.

The innovative use of social stories and play therapy enables the child to feel safe in their environment and better understand their own emotions and experiences. The collaborative approach between the staff, the organisation's therapy and education team and the child's placing authority has meant risks for the child are continuing to reduce and further specialist assessments are no longer required.

Safeguarding incidents are well managed. The manager recently ensured that the child was sensitively supported to have difficult conversations with another professional. This enabled the child to feel safe and comfortable in discussing the issues with other people who could provide further advice.

The manager has clear oversight of incidents and there is evidence that the child is appropriately challenged and educated to respect others. Following any incidents, learning is implemented in practice in the home to ensure a consistent staff response.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

The manager is exceptionally committed, passionate and child-focused. She manages another home close by and divides her time between the homes well. The manager has made efforts to create a caring home for the child. She has high aspirations and strives to ensure that the team provides an exceptional standard of care to improve the child's outcomes and experiences.

Staff are highly motivated and enthusiastic. They are passionate about their roles and in ensuring that the child's needs are being met. Staff feel valued and supported. They benefit from clear leadership and guidance from the manager. One member of staff said, 'She continues to be a great leader and gives clear direction, which has been critical to our success as a team.'

Learning and development opportunities for staff are a key strength. Staff are encouraged to access training and to progress within the organisation. One member of staff has recently moved into a management position within the provider group.

Staff receive regular reflective supervision centred around the secure base model. They also benefit from consultations with the therapy team to further enhance their understanding of the child's behaviours and needs. This model is reflected in the child's records and linked well to the therapeutic approach in the home. Therapists attend team meetings, providing opportunities for further reflection and development.

Communication with partner agencies is highly effective. The team provides regular updates about the child's progress to their family and placing authority.

The manager has excellent oversight of the home. She uses internal and external monitoring systems effectively to continually develop practice and is aware of the home's strengths and areas for development. However, feedback from stakeholders is limited. This is something the manager is taking action to address.

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

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that feedback is collated from a range of stakeholders to further enhance independent scrutiny of the home. ('Guide to the Children's Home Regulations, including the quality standards', page 20, paragraph 4.1)

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, using the social care common inspection framework. This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, 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'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC356864

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Time-Out Children's Homes Limited

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

Responsible individual: Dominic Macauley

Registered manager: Lauren Birkett

Inspector

Colin Jones, Social Care Inspector

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