

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 home is owned by a private provider and may care for up to two children with social and emotional difficulties.

One child was living in the home at the time of the inspection. The child did not wish to speak with the inspector about their experiences of living in the home.

The manager of the home registered with Ofsted on 17 December 2020 and is also the registered manager of another of the provider's children's homes.

Inspection dates: 30 and 31 January 2024

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account **outstanding**

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

The effectiveness of leaders and managers **outstanding**

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: 20 February 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: outstanding

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/02/2023	Full	Outstanding
25/01/2022	Full	Good
18/12/2019	Full	Good
15/01/2019	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

The child has lived in the home since before the last inspection. They have made exceptional progress in all areas of their life. The child is cared for by a highly committed and motivated staff team that ensures that the child's needs are at the centre of its practice. The team has an unwavering dedication to understanding what it needs to do to help the child, and this has created a calm and loving home where the child can thrive.

The child is empowered to explore new experiences beyond their comfort zone. Staff nurture the child's interests and have encouraged them to join local clubs and meet peers with similar interests. Staff have skilfully supported the child to attend other opportunities, such as music concerts. These memories and achievements are captured in a unique and carefully bound book for the child. This tells the story of the child's journey, as well as celebrating their achievements.

Communication between staff and the child is excellent. Staff are constantly reviewing how they can change their methods of communication to better meet the child's needs. They successfully use social stories when they need to have difficult conversations with the child. This ensures that the child understands information and can ask any questions they may have, enabling their views and feelings to be heard.

Staff support the child to have time with their family and people who are important to them. Staff work around barriers effectively, seeking to provide support for the family as well as the child. This helps the child to see the people who matter to them in a safe and supportive way.

Staff prioritise the child's education. When the child could not access a school setting, the team sought guidance to support the child to feel less anxious. This enabled them to support the child with online learning to ensure that they maintained access to education.

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

The registered manager and staff take a comprehensive and dynamic approach to safeguarding. They are vigilant and responsive to the child's needs. When the child's needs changed, the registered manager responded by increasing staffing levels to enable the child to remain in the home.

Staff have clear methods of identifying and managing risks to keep the child safe. A highly individualised plan of support provides guidance to the team in relation to specific interventions. The organisation's therapeutic team regularly consults with

the staff about the plans and interventions used to support the child, which ensures that staff model therapeutic care. This helps the child to feel safe and cared for.

Staff creatively find alternative strategies to de-escalate situations. Where possible, they have involved the child in these conversations. This helps the child to develop safer ways to communicate difficult feelings, and it is enabling them to understand their emotions and experiences more clearly.

The daily organisation of the home is exemplary. The child benefits from clear routines that focus on their needs and enable them to feel emotionally safe. Staff are attuned to the child's needs and are able to pre-empt any negative incidents. If an incident does occur, staff respond immediately and proportionately for the child. Consequently, the frequency and length of any negative incidents have reduced.

Staff receive training that is tailored to the needs of the child. The registered manager is persistent in identifying training that reflects the child's changing needs. This has resulted in the child being cared for by a highly skilled staff team that understands the child's needs exceptionally well.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

The registered manager is highly regarded by children, staff and professionals. The child in the home trusts her, and she knows the child well. The registered manager has a significant presence within the home but also ensures that the team can function independently. There is a high level of cohesion within the team. One staff member said, 'The team have faced challenges together and have supported each other wholeheartedly.'

The registered manager has created a culture of positivity within the home, and the child is thriving in this environment. She has embedded reflective practice into the home and uses staff supervision sessions and team meetings to further develop practice in the home. The registered manager has also maximised the support of the provider's therapeutic team to support the implementation of research-based practice, ensuring that the child receives exceptional care that is tailored to meet their individual needs.

Leaders and managers are ambitious for the quality of service that they provide for the child. The registered manager has implemented a system of monitoring that is effective and drives positive change. Areas of development are identified and addressed at the earliest opportunity. As a result, the high standard of support for the child is maintained.

Staff have excellent relationships with professionals who are external to the home. The team has collaborated effectively with professionals, as well as raising appropriate challenge when the needs of the child have to be advocated for. As a result, professionals understand the needs of the child better. Professionals speak highly of the staff team and value its knowledge and experience. This means the continuity of care extends beyond the home, helping the child to progress.

Managers are inspirational when speaking about the child. This is transferred to the team, which speaks about the child with pride and warmth. Staff remain dedicated to removing barriers to the child's progress, and there is a powerful child-centred approach. This is evident throughout all the records kept about the child, which are written consistently with the child in mind. This helps the team to maintain its dedication to the care of the child.

No requirements or recommendations were made at this inspection.

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

Sarah Gilbert, Social Care Inspector

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