

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	11/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC357468
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Time-Out Childrens Homes Limited
Registered person address	7 St Petersgate, Stockport, Cheshire, SK1 1EB

Responsible individual	Janet Lumb
Registered manager	Jennifer Williams
Inspector	Janine Shortman-Thomas

Inspection date	11/03/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Not judged
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 Good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection the home was 'not judged'. The home has been closed since February 2015. The Registered Manager and staff continue to work within the other provisions owned by this organisation. The suitably qualified and experienced manager will resume her responsibilities for the home once a qualified and experienced staff team for the home has been identified, and agreement been secured for a young person's admission. The manager ensures the home continues to function safely and maintains its conditions of registration, as she maintains regular checks and visits to the home. The manager continues to ensure that the electrical, gas and fire equipment is monitored and serviced regularly, and ensures that the independent monthly monitoring visits are undertaken. Despite the home being unoccupied for 13 months, these visits continue and recommendations identified from the visits are addressed. For example the bathroom floor has now been replaced and the kitchen ceiling repaired and repainted. However, following a further leak additional investigation and repairs are required to the kitchen ceiling and, a recurring action in regards to re-painting the garage remains outstanding. The inspector was unable to validate if appropriate action has been taken to address the two requirements and one recommendation raised at the previous inspection. These requirements were in reference to: ensuring that there is a sufficient number of permanent, suitably qualified, competent and experienced staff working within the home; and seeking consent from young people, their families and placing authorities for the independent visitor to consult and view young people's files. These alongside the one recommendation, to improve the fabric of the home, have been re-issued. The home has been closed for 13 months. The registered provider has indicated that the home will not be operational until they have identified a suitably qualified, and experienced staff team. Should the home decide to accept placements they are required to inform Ofsted of their intention before they do so providing an up-to-date Statement of Purpose.	

Information about this children's home

- This children's home is registered to provide care and support for one young person with emotional and or behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/12/2015	CH - Interim	Not judged
04/02/2015	CH - Interim	Declined in effectiveness
25/06/2014	CH - Full	Good
13/02/2014	CH - Interim	Good Progress

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/s 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(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The registered person must only employ an individual to work at the children's home if the individual has the appropriate experience, qualifications and skills for the work that the individual is to perform. (Regulation 32(2)(3)(b))	27/05/2016
When the independent person is carrying out a visit, the registered person must help the independent person, if they consent, to interview in private such of the children, their parents, relatives and person's working in the home as the independent person requires. (Regulation 44 (2)(a))	27/05/2016

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure the children's home is a nurturing, supportive and safe environment that meets the needs of their children. This is in particular reference to repairing and repainting the kitchen ceiling and repainting the garage. (The Quality Standards, page 15, paragraph 3.9)

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 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 who 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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