

Monitoring report for a Children's Home

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Inspector	Judith Longden

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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is privately owned and is registered to provide care for a maximum of four young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Outcome of monitoring visit

On 21 January 2015 Ofsted carried out an interim inspection at this setting. Four requirements were made and the judgement of declined in effectiveness was given. At a case review to discuss the judgement it was agreed to carry out this monitoring visit in order to monitor the responses to the requirements.

The monitoring visit was unannounced. It was explained to the Registered Manager, on arrival, that the visit was to identify how the requirements had been addressed. Evidence was gathered through discussion with the Registered Manager and by viewing a number of documents, including an improvement plan, sent by the organisation, prior to the visit. This improvement plan was in relation to the supervision and support of the manager.

The evidence gathered during the visit, and a subsequent meeting with the organisation and Ofsted, indicate that the four requirements have been satisfactorily met.

The manager has developed a system for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of consequences imposed for negative behaviour which evaluates the short term and longer term effectiveness. This ensures young people are able to learn from their behaviours and take responsibility for their actions.

Staffing arrangements have improved. The home is less reliant on agency staff and staff redeployed from other homes. This provides more consistency for young people. This improvement has come at a time when there are less young people residing in the home and staff have not been absent from work. The manager is aware that this improvement needs to be sustained over a longer period.

The support and supervision for the manager has improved. A range of systems, including formal supervision, provide various sources of support. Again, these are to be reviewed to ascertain the sustained improvement and long term benefit for the manager.

The timeframe for submission of notifiable events to Ofsted has mostly improved. The manager maintains a detailed record of when reports are submitted to his organisation for their review and follows up on any delays in these then being forwarded to Ofsted. Any significant delays are investigated.

There are no breaches of regulation found as a result of this visit.

About this monitoring visit

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and progress made by the Children's Home following an Ofsted inspection.