

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	11/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC372619
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered manager	Justine Staples
Inspector	Julian Mason

Inspection date	11/03/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Good
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 full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness. The young person has been in his placement for a year. He has continued to benefit from living in a home, which is well managed and organised. The young person's placement is stable and he is making the necessary progress that will potentially allow him to return to his family home this year. This stability and progress is an indicator of the positive steps now being made in comparison to previous circumstances. Higher staffing ratios have decreased as the young person has stabilised and taken more take responsibility for himself. He has been supported to build trust and to develop his social skills. This has enabling him to form and sustain more appropriate relationships with staff and family members. The young person's emotional and behavioural difficulties have lessened over time. This is because he experiences an enabling culture that adapts and changes in line with his individual needs and circumstances. The young person still faces some difficulties and challenges but he has made progress because of the commitment to provide a safe, stable placement. The young person engages with therapeutic services that are part of, and linked to, meeting his care and welfare needs. His emotional well-being and development is being promoted well in support of greater resilience and self-awareness. The young person's education is prioritised and support provided is on the basis of his individual needs. Staff are well aware of the young person's previous school experiences, such as poor attendance and difficult peer relationships. Learning programmes are devised and agreed with teachers that support the potential for the young person to overcome these difficulties. Staff provide lots of one to one help so progress can be made. The manager and staff team advocate strongly to promote the right arrangements that are realistic and sustainable. Staff remain very accessible and approachable ensuring care and support is accessed and provided when needed or requested. Participation in formal and informal consultations remains high, resulting in the young person's wishes and goals being well known and supported. The young person is very happy with the way he is looked after and how he has been helped to achieve his aims for the	

future. He also continues to feel very safe in the home and with the manager and staff team who look after him.

The young person benefits from staff working in partnership with other agencies and individuals. The registered manager and staff team are very experienced at working with families, social workers, teachers and other professionals. They act as responsible advocates, promoting individual wishes and feelings when needed. In addition, they link effectively with agencies that are focused on public protection and managing risks in the community. This means that information is successfully shared in a way that helps keep everyone safe.

The young person benefits from living in a home that is effectively and efficiently managed. Monitoring and quality assurance processes are well established to support the development of the service. The registered manager continues to gather evidence from a range of sources to determine the quality of care being provided. Recently returned questionnaires from external professionals who are involved in the life of the young person are positive. In particular, feedback highlights how good the staff team's knowledge is and the quality of care provided.

Information about this children's home

This children's home is registered to provide care and accommodation for one young person with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home is operated by a private company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/08/2015	CH - Full	Good
10/02/2015	CH - Interim	Sustained effectiveness
14/10/2014	CH - Full	Adequate
06/03/2014	CH - Interim	Good progress

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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