

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	19/01/2017
Unique reference number	SC372619
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Bryn Melyn Care
Registered provider address	Bryn Melyn Care Limited, Edward James House, Hadley Park East, Telford TF1 6QJ

Responsible individual	James Flanagan
Registered manager	Justine Staples
Inspector	Dawn Bennett

Inspection date	19/01/2017
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 judge that it has sustained effectiveness. Young people make good progress in most areas of their lives. They experience placement stability where they are able to make progress against their agreed plans. Staff provide good quality nurturing care, based on the individual's needs. They have good insight and understanding of young people's circumstances and backgrounds. This enables them to support young people effectively to stabilise, build meaningful relationships and grow in confidence and self-esteem. Young people talk about their life experiences and backgrounds and learn to reflect on behaviours and decisions that have had a negative impact on their lives. Young people quickly settle into the home because they are well supported and welcomed by the staff team. The registered manager and staff team visit them prior to placement and provide opportunities for them, and when appropriate their family, to visit the home. A young person has recently moved into the home from another service within the company. He was also supported by members of his previous staff team who worked alongside his new staff team for a week when he first moved in. Young people overcome previous difficulties and negative feelings towards school and education. Young people who have had significant histories of poor attendance and attainment successfully re-engage. Staff promote arrangements that encourage progress and improvement, such as by initially attending school with a young person to provide them, and the school placement, with additional support. Staff encourage and motivate young people to behave in ways that are socially acceptable. Staff talk to young people and promote adjustments and improvements in behaviour. Young people are given support to communicate and discuss emotions. As a result, there is a significant reduction to previous high-risk behaviours, such as violence towards staff, and damage to cars and property. Staff have a clear understanding of how to manage any safeguarding allegations and refer concerns appropriately. They receive regular safeguarding training, which includes a range of topics, including children missing from home and awareness-raising in relation to child sexual exploitation.	

The number of serious incidents within the home is low. Staff successfully promote a safe and settled environment. When a physical intervention or missing from care incident does occur staff are proactive. They follow policies and guidance. Their practice promotes the young person's safety. They work in partnership with other agencies to ensure that there is a positive resolution that informs future practice.

Staff help young people successfully move on and out from the home in line with their pathway plans. Young people move having learned appropriate life skills as part of their daily routine. Recently, staff have supported a young person to move into a semi-independence adult provision. They ensured that he had a clear transition plan and that he was well informed. After he had moved, they continued to have daily contact with him, listened to him and supported him to address any new emerging needs.

The registered manager provides good day-to-day direction and support to the staff team to ensure that care practice and routines are matched to the changing risks and needs of each individual. Staff are well informed and follow clear management strategies.

The registered manager, when appropriate, gives robust challenge to other professionals and agencies to ensure positive outcomes for young people. For example, she has raised concerns with local authorities about delays to accessing children looked after documentation and identifying future adult placements. She has also raised concerns with the company's school with regard to a delay to the start of a young person's schooling.

The registered manager continues to raise standards and develop the service. All previous requirements and recommendations have been met. Quality assurance systems are used effectively to monitor practice and outcomes and identify areas for development. Since the last inspection the registered manager has recruited new staff to the team and appointed an acting deputy. Work has also started on the redecoration, refurbishment and personalisation of the home.

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
08/06/2016	Full	Good
11/03/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
11/08/2015	Full	Good
10/02/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

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 within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date

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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