

Children's homes - monitoring

Inspection date	07/12/2015
Unique reference number	SC381089
Type of inspection	Monitoring
Inspector	Matt Hedges

This monitoring visit

This home was last inspected on 13 October 2015. It was judged as inadequate, 24 regulatory requirements and four recommendations were made. 2 compliance notices were issued. These related to the quality of the independent person's reports, and the registered person's quality of care review. In addition, there was a wide range of significant shortfalls. These included concerns relating to the safeguarding and protection of young people, joint working with partner agencies, education, staffing and missing from home. Serious concerns were also raised in management oversight, supervision, recruitment, recording, and the home's statement of purpose.

In order to evaluate the progress the home has made a monitoring visit was undertaken on 07 December 2015.

Since the last inspection, the registered manager has been away from the home. A suitably qualified, experienced acting manager is in day-to-day charge. She has made significant progress and has addressed all of the regulatory shortfalls identified at the previous inspection. No additional shortfalls have been identified.

Staff talk positively about the support they receive. The staff team is more stable, more effectively supported, and new staff are better inducted. This has improved the quality and consistency of care provided to young people and the standard of record keeping.

Staff talk passionately about the improvements in the home. They are knowledgeable about young people and committed to meeting their needs. As a result, relationships between staff and young people have improved. All young people now spend increasing amounts of time in the home and engage better with staff. Consequently, young people feel more secure; they have responded well to an increasing level of trust and are making good progress.

Incidents where young people go missing have decreased. They talk more openly to staff about their experiences when away from the home. This results in an increased dialogue between staff and young people about keeping safe. Young people are safer because of this. All young people are now engaging well in education. This is a significant improvement and helps them to achieve more, academically and socially.

Management oversight has improved. The acting manager now completes regular 'quality of care reviews', which include robust action plans. The independent person's reports, produced after their visits to the home, have also significantly improved. These developments ensure that the acting manager is aware of the home's strengths and weaknesses and takes steps to secure improvement. As a result, young people are achieving more and their experiences on a day-to-day basis are better.

Information about this children's home

The home provides care for up to two children/young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home is owned and operated by a Local Authority.

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
No additional requirements identified	n/a

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the home since their last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

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