

Children's home – interim inspection

Inspection date	12/01/2017
Unique reference number	SC386522
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Keys Education Limited
Registered provider address	Hurstwood Court, Laganwood House, New Hall Hey Road, Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 6HR

Responsible individual	Marc Murphy
Registered manager	Susan Davies
Inspector	Anthony Kyem

Inspection date	12/01/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Outstanding
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 Outstanding at the full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judge that it has sustained effectiveness. There have been no new admissions, placement breakdowns or disruptions since the last inspection. Young people are settled in placement. They benefit from the safety and stability that this home provides for them. They have found permanence and a real sense of belonging. A social worker reported of her young person: 'She has been very settled in placement and has an excellent relationship with staff. She comments she does not want to leave post 18. She is developing her independence skills at present with the support of staff, and the care she receives is to a very high standard.' Young people benefit from continuity of care and have stability and consistency in their lives. They enjoy warm and secure relationships with staff with whom they have developed strong and positive attachments. Young people benefit from adults who they have grown to trust, respect and look up to. Staff prioritise effectively the needs of young people and do what any good parent would do for their own children. Consequently, young people know that staff genuinely care for them and want what's best for them, and this enables them to lead happy and fulfilling lives. They benefit from effective, high quality support from staff that leads to significant change and improvement in their lives across all aspects of their welfare and physical, social, emotional and behavioural development. Young people attend school/college regularly and make significant progress in working towards achieving their career aspirations, training and educational goals. Staff work enthusiastically and proactively with the providers of young people's education to promote their positive progress, learning and educational achievement. Young people living at the home are appropriately placed and matched. They are kept safe and enjoy a strong sense of personal safety. Risks associated with young people are well known and understood by staff who have an excellent understanding of their specific needs and vulnerabilities and take appropriate action to address them. Staff anticipate issues exceptionally well and can identify the root causes for young people's behaviour. This enables staff to tackle the specific behaviours of young people at source and help them make sense of their feelings and emotions so that they can learn to self-regulate their feelings and behaviours safely. Young people have exceptionally good relationships with staff	

and feel able to approach them to discuss any concerns or anxieties that they may have. Staff actively encourage young people to talk about their feelings and experiences, and respond appropriately to their concerns. A social worker reported: 'The young person is given a lot of emotional support. She has had some recent changes in her life and the staff know her well and are supporting her with this.'

Risk-taking behaviours, such as drug misuse, offending, self-harm and going missing from care are not an issue for young people. Young people do not go missing, nor do they engage in dangerous, high-risk-taking activities. Staff actively promote and encourage the development of their positive behaviour, and young people respond positively to the help and support that they receive from staff. There have been no restraints since the last inspection. Sanctions, if used at all, are kept to an absolute minimum.

Young people are protected from abuse and all other forms of significant harm. Significant incidents are exceptionally rare. However, if they do occur, they are reported to the appropriate authorities to ensure that young people are supported and protected. The safety and well-being of young people is consistently at the centre of staff's practice and there are effective arrangements to ensure that young people are protected from actual harm.

Leaders and managers prioritise effectively the needs of young people. They routinely monitor the progress that they make, and maintain highly effective partnerships with social workers, schools and other professional agencies to ensure that they benefit from the best possible help and all-round support. They make good use of the home's internal and external monitoring activities to review, and if necessary improve, the quality of young people's care. Young people benefit from a home that is consistently managed efficiently and effectively.

Information about this children's home

The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three young people who may have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home is privately owned and managed.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
05/11/2016	Full	Outstanding
22/03/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
24/11/2015	Full	Good
22/01/2015	Interim	Declined in effectiveness

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 that 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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