

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	22/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC386522
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Keys Education Limited
Registered person 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	22/03/2016
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 judge that it has sustained effectiveness. There have been no new admissions, placement breakdowns or disruptions since the last inspection. Young people who continue to live at the home benefit from the stability, safety and security this placement provides them. They have exceptionally good relationships with staff, who help, protect and support them. Young people are kept safe and have a very strong sense of personal safety. Staff provide the young people with continuity of care so they have stability and consistency in their lives. Care planning is well planned and practice is highly personalised to meet the specific needs of the young people. Young people benefit from a highly supportive, caring and nurturing environment where their needs are prioritised effectively. Staff maintain highly effective partnerships with all other professional agencies to ensure young people benefit from the best possible help, protection and support. Their needs are championed effectively and staff consistently strive to achieve the best outcomes possible for young people. There is evidence of significant change and improvement in the lives of young people who make exceptional progress, in relation to their individual starting points across all aspects of their welfare, physical, social, emotional and behavioural development. Young people's attendance at school is exceptionally good and staff have high aspirations for the young people to achieve their full potential. They work closely with the providers of young people's education to maximise the progress they make and the outcomes they achieve. Both recommendations from the last inspection have been addressed and met. New staff have completed their induction and are now enrolled to complete a professional qualification in caring for young people. Missing from care risk assessments have also been completed for all of the young people at the home. Currently, there are no issues, whatsoever, with young people going missing from care and risks associated with young people are well known, understood and managed effectively by staff.	

Young people become increasingly safer as a result of the actions staff take to support and protect them. They are kept safe and are less likely to suffer actual harm. Risk taking behaviours, such as going missing for lengthy periods, drug use and the risk of offending have reduced considerably. However, there are some young people who require more intensive supervision and support. Their risk assessments would benefit from more frequent review, with other professional agencies, so there are clear lines of delegated authority as to how risks are routinely reviewed and managed.

The use of restraint is exceptionally rare and it is only ever used as a last resort to protect young people from accident, harm or injury. Sanctions as a consequence for unacceptable behaviour, are used proportionately and are kept to an absolute minimum.

There have been no complaints since the last inspection. Young people's views, wishes and feelings are taken seriously and this ensures they are able to influence and contribute to the running of the home. The accommodation provided for the young people is consistently maintained to high quality standards for them. The home is physically safe, warm, welcoming and homely.

The home benefits from a suitably qualified, well trained and experienced Registered Manager who exercises strong and effective leadership of the home's staff and operation. The manager is consistently ambitious and energetic about sustaining the home's improvement. They make good use of the home's monitoring activities to raise standards and improve outcomes for the young people. There are effective arrangements for monitoring the activities of the home to secure its smooth operation. Young people benefit from a home that is managed efficiently and effectively.

Information about this children's home

- The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to 3 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
24/11/2015	CH - Full	Good
22/01/2015	CH - Interim	declined in effectiveness
30/09/2014	CH - Full	Good
27/02/2014	CH - Interim	Good Progress

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation:

- continually and actively assess the risks to each child and the arrangements in place to protect them. Where there are safeguarding concerns for a child, their placement plan, agreed between the home and their placing authority, must include details of the steps the home will take to manage any assessed risks on a day to day basis. (The Guide to the quality standards, paragraph 9.5, page 42)

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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