

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC390156
Inspector	Chris Golbourn
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Pilgrims Corner Limited
Registered person address	Suite 5 The Links HERNE BAY Kent CT6 7GQ

Responsible individual	Sarah Norman
Registered manager	Lesley Patricia Dunne
Date of last inspection	17/12/2014

Inspection date	25/02/2015
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Previous inspection	good
Enforcement action since last inspection	None

This inspection

This home was judged good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has **sustained effectiveness**.

The two requirements and four recommendations raised at the previous inspection have been addressed. There are no new requirements or recommendations resulting from this inspection.

The acting manager has applied for registration. An experienced and well qualified staff team have now been recruited to work in the home. This organisation delivers a comprehensive induction programme to new staff to prepare them for residential care, and further training for existing staff in essential areas such as safeguarding and restraint. Staff report that they appreciate the honest delivery of the induction programme, in preparing them to manage challenging behaviours.

The acting manager has also reviewed the care and safety practices of the home. As a result, risk assessment recording practices, and the manner in which risk is addressed has improved. Recordings are succinct and clear, detailing the risk, the impact on young people, and the action staff should take to manage behaviour and minimise risk to keep young people safe.

Since the last inspection, one new young person has been placed at the home. Young people continue to make good progress, quickly settling into the home. Attendance at school and engagement in education are a high priority. Staff support the young people to access education providing transport to and from school, and appropriately supporting with homework when necessary. Young people's contact with friends and family members where appropriate, is encouraged and supported by staff.

Staff also support young people to access sport and leisure activities. This include the personal interest of young people. Examples are, horse riding, swimming, bicycle riding and local community clubs. As a result young people from their individual

starting points make positive progress in all aspects of their lives.

Care planning in the home is good, it is personalised to the individual young person, and it is centred on their needs. Health care is organised, and the staff make all arrangements for local services to be accessed. Where a young person requires any specialist health care services such as children adolescent mental health service (CAMHS) staff will champion this for the young person and ensure that their voice is heard. Where necessary, they appropriately challenge partner agencies. Staff work closely with other professionals to ensure young people receive the support and services they need. The result is that young people make good progress, improved behaviour, better physical and mental health, and improved relationships. One young person said 'It is brilliant to stay here'.

Young people convey that they feel safe and are happy. Staff effectively manage risks. Staff recognise young peoples' vulnerabilities and enable them to have age appropriate experiences in a safe way. Staff explain clearly to young people who may disagree with an aspect of their care why this is the case. Challenging behaviour is effectively managed, sanctions and restraints are used only as a last resort and when absolutely necessary. There have been no safeguarding referrals made since the last inspection. All policies, protocols and procedures to safeguard young people are in place and robustly reviewed by the organisation. This support young people's feelings of safety..

Leaders and managers have a good grasp of the strengths of this service and areas for development. Monitoring occurs through monthly checks by the independent visitor. The acting manager has introduced a system of weekly quality assurance checks aligned to the internal and external monitoring requirements and the home's development planning. As a result, the care and safety of the young people are continuously monitored in a consistent way, and any shortfalls are addressed before they deteriorate.

Information about this children's home

This private children's home provides care and accommodation for three young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. There is another children's home within the organisation located next door, the acting manager also has responsibility for this home.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
17/12/2014	Full	good
06/03/2014	Interim	inadequate progress
22/11/2013	Full	good
18/12/2012	Interim	good progress

What inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspections 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

The purpose of this inspection is to assure children and young people, parents, the public, local authorities and government of the quality and standard of the service provided. The 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 relevant regulations and meets the national minimum standards.

The report details the main strengths, any areas for improvement, including any breaches of regulation, and any failure to meet national minimum standards. The judgements included in the report are made against the framework of inspection for children's homes.