

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC391594
Inspector	Parveen Hussain
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Pathway Care Solutions II Limited
Registered person address	14 Regent Street NOTTINGHAM NG1 5BQ

Responsible individual	Peter Vallelly
Registered manager	Stephanie Skinner
Date of last inspection	28/01/2014

Inspection date	18/03/2015
Previous inspection	good progress
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 **improved effectiveness**.

Since the last inspection the home has demonstrated its capacity to improve in that all the previous requirements and recommendations have been met. The updated Statement of Purpose and Children's Guide ensures that young people and all other interested parties have a clear picture of the care to be provided. This includes the contact information for appropriate outside agencies. Much improved recording processes detail outcomes of complaints and any allegations against staff. Young people are safeguarded by these measures.

Young people are cared for in a warm, friendly and nurturing home. Young people develop close, trusting relationships with staff which contributes to them feel happy and safe. Young people enjoy living here; they recognise the efforts made by staff to help them settle and make positive changes to their life. However, some care practices promote an institutional feel to the home. For example, young people's bedrooms are alarmed, the front door is locked and waking night staff undertake visual, hourly checks on young people throughout the night. Although this is felt to be an added safeguarding measure, young people do not display behaviours that justify such levels of surveillance and intervention.

Young people in education engage well and make good progress. Staff advocate strongly on the behalf of others not in education to secure placements suited to their individual needs. Whilst awaiting placement, staff ensure they continue to promote young people's learning at home. This helps young people stay motivated and supports their transition into a new school. Some young people require one-to-one support in education. Staff commit to this on a daily basis enabling young people to have the same chances of success as others.

Young people make improvements in their physical and emotional wellbeing. They work with mental health and therapeutic services to help identify reasons for their

challenging behaviours. One young person has significantly reduced their illicit substance misuse since living at the home. This is a result of the care and support received from staff. Such effective relationships enable young people to reflect on their behaviours and make positive changes which help keep them safe. The young person said, 'I am no longer engaged with criminal activity. I was involved with bad people before I moved here. Staff here are great, I get on with all of them.'

Young people are supported to promote their independence skills. They learn to cook, clean, budget, maintain their personal hygiene and travel independently. This enables young people to successfully transition to adult services when they reach eighteen. Young people benefit from increased confidence and self-esteem as a result of their newly learnt skills.

Young people's views are actively sought through regular consultation. These are incorporated in the running of the home. This ensures young people take pride in their home and environment and fully participate in their care plan.

Records are well maintained and accurately reflect the care received by young people. Care plans and risk assessments are updated in line with young people's developing needs.

Staff supervision is delivered in a timely way; this promotes reflective practice and helps identify staff's learning and development needs. Training is well facilitated and ensures care is provided to young people by individuals with relevant, up-to-date skills and knowledge.

Information about this children's home

This children's home is privately owned and provides care and accommodation for up to three children who have a learning disability.

The home is fitted with minor aids and adaptations to help support children who may also have a physical disability.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
28/01/2014	Interim	good progress
20/06/2013	Full	good
08/02/2013	Interim	inadequate progress
10/07/2012	Full	good

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

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 Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Reg.	Requirement	Due date
22 (2001)	ensure that electronic or mechanical monitoring devices for the surveillance of children are not used in a children's home except for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the child concerned, or other children accommodated in the children's home, and the measure is no more restrictive than necessary, having regard to the child's need for privacy (Regulation 22 (1) (d)).	01/05/2015

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.