

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	23/03/2017
Unique reference number	SC391993
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	St Cuthbert's Care
Registered provider address	St Cuthbert's House, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 7PY

Responsible individual	Sheila Errington
Registered manager	Katie Doyle
Inspector	Colin Imrie

Inspection date	23/03/2017
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 last full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness. The home has been through a period of transition. The new registered manager has been consolidating the staff team and the care practices, and is now starting to develop the service further. There have been some staff changes and recruitment is ongoing. The registered manager has rightly limited the number of admissions during this period, while the staff team is brought back up to full strength. Since the previous inspection, one young person has left after their challenging behaviour caused some difficulties. This young person did not make good progress and this is a poor outcome. Another young person arrived and left quickly after they did not settle and they chose to move to an independent living situation. Two young people have been in placement throughout. One of these young people is now ready to move to independence, having been well prepared for adult life. Both of these young people have made good progress with their personal difficulties and have been well supported through some difficult personal times by the staff and their good key work. This meets one of the requirements from the previous inspection. However, both of the young people have missed some education and training opportunities. Two young people who were admitted more recently have settled and staff have supported both of them to make ongoing good progress. The two young people who have left since the last inspection did go missing from the home frequently and so there have been some safeguarding concerns. Staff dealt with these situations well at the time. However, since these two young people moved on there have been very few safeguarding concerns. There had been a disturbance on the night before the inspection and staff were dealing with this appropriately. The registered manager has updated the statement of purpose, which meets the other requirement from the previous inspection. One requirement has been made at this inspection. This is to ensure that every	

child or young person living at the home has a full-time education or training placement and that they are rigorously encouraged to attend this. The staff have made efforts here, but more needs to be done to ensure that all young people receive appropriate education and training.

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a charitable organisation and is registered for the care and accommodation of up to six children or young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties or learning disabilities.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
05/07/2016	Full	Good
08/03/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
12/05/2015	Full	Good
18/02/2015	Full	Adequate

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) meet(s) 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
In order to meet the education standard, with particular reference to ensuring that children have a full-time education or training placement and attend this, the registered person must ensure that staff: (2)(x) help each child to attend education or training in accordance with the expectations in the child's relevant plan.	31/05/2017

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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