

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	15/03/2017
Unique reference number	SC396104
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Full Circle Care
Registered provider address	474 Stockport Road, Denton, Manchester M34 6ET
Responsible individual	Andrew Parish
Registered manager	Christine Barry
Inspector	Anthony Kyem

Inspection date	15/03/2017
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 judges that it has sustained effectiveness. Young people who have left the home have done so in a very controlled, positive and well-planned way. Some young people have returned to live with their own families and others have successfully achieved their independence. Those young people who are new to the home have settled in quickly and been made to feel welcome by staff. Young people benefit from well-planned, highly individualised care that promotes their needs effectively, and leads to change and improvement in their lives. They benefit from effective, high-quality support from well-qualified, trained and experienced staff who strive to achieve the best outcomes possible for young people. Staff provide young people with a warm, highly supportive, safe, caring and nurturing environment. The home is consistently maintained to a high-quality standard for young people, which shows that staff care about young people and value them. Young people enjoy exceptionally good relationships with staff and they sustain their positive attachments. Staff provide young people with continuity of care so that they have consistency and stability in their lives. Risks associated with young people are well understood by staff. Young people become increasingly safe as result of the actions that staff take to support and protect them. The safety of young people is consistently at the centre of staff practice. Staff maintain highly effective partnerships with social workers, schools and the families of the young people to ensure that they benefit from the best possible help and all-round support. Staff consistently have high expectations for young people. They actively encourage their regular attendance at education to promote their learning and educational achievement. Staff maintain effective partnerships with the providers of young people's education to promote career aspirations, training and educational goals. Staff actively encourage the development of young people's positive behaviour. They spend quality time with the young people and show a genuine interest in their happiness and all-round well-being. Young people have positive role models in staff, and they benefit from appropriate adults whom they can look	

up to and learn from.

There have been no complaints, restraints or allegations since the last inspection. The behaviours of young people are managed safely and effectively by staff. The use of sanctions is rare, and any consequences imposed for negative behaviour are fair and proportionately used. Significant incidents are reported promptly to the appropriate authorities to ensure that young people are safeguarded effectively and benefit from appropriate protection and support. Young people are protected from abuse and all other forms of significant harm.

Young people who are absent or go missing are helped to reduce the frequency with which they go missing. Staff actively look for young people if they are missing. They greet them and talk to them on their return. Staff try to identify the underlying reasons why the young people go missing. They follow and implement effective procedures, and work closely with the police to encourage their quick and safe return.

The home has met two of four recommendations from the last inspection. The home has reviewed the children's guide to make it a more child-friendly document for young people. The home is introducing new supervisors for some staff to prevent any potential conflicts of interest, as family members are employed. The manager is currently in the process of updating young people's individual plans to identify the specific triggers for them going missing and strategies to minimise that risk. This is work in progress, so the previous recommendation is repeated. The home's statement of purpose has not been updated since the last inspection to make clear the type of specific behaviours that the home provides specialist care for. Consequently, this recommendation is also repeated.

The manager demonstrates strong and effective leadership of the operation of the home. They ensure that the home consistently delivers a high-quality service for young people, their social workers and families. There are robust systems in place for the routine monitoring of the performance of the home. The home is visited each month by an independent person who scrutinises the home's practice. This includes appropriate consultations with social workers, other professionals, staff and young people to inform an impartial judgement about the quality of young people's care, and the arrangements to safeguard them and promote their well-being. The manager makes good use of the home's internal and external monitoring activities to secure the home's continuing improvement. The independent visitor reported, 'I think it's a lovely home and setting. You can really feel it.'

Information about this children's home

The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to six 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
20/10/2016	Full	Outstanding
16/03/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
09/12/2015	Full	Outstanding
13/03/2015	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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(s):

- Ensure information as set out in the home's statement of purpose clearly indicates how the home provides individualised care for specific complex behaviours. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', paragraph 3.5, page 14)
- Ensure that where there is a possibility that a child will run away or go missing from a children's home placement, that their individual plan sets out the strategy to minimise this risk. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', paragraph 9.24, page 45)

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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