

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	07/03/2016
Unique reference number	SC405713
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered manager	Sorrelle Fern
Inspector	Lisa Walsh

Inspection date	07/03/2016
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 judge that it has sustained effectiveness. Since the last inspection, one young person has moved into the home and two young people have moved out. On rare occasions, young people leave the home quickly in challenging circumstances. Despite this, the registered manager and staff team ensure they receive effective and individualised support. Generally, young people move in a well-assessed and thoroughly planned way. Transitional plans are robust, well planned and facilitated. Recent transitions have been enriched by staff working in close collaboration with parents. For example, during a recent transition out of the home both the young person's and parents voices were listened too and acted upon, this enabled a successful transition. Young people's attendance within education improves from their starting point because of the support they receive from staff. Staff work closely with educational authorities to find the most suitable educational placement for young people. They are provided with tailored packages of support to ensure that the transitions are successful. When necessary staff advocate on behalf of young people, they are passionate about ensuring that the rights of young people are promoted consistently. As a result, all young people achieve more academically. Young people continue to feel valued, listened to and consulted. For example, they talk warmly about the staff and know their views are respected. They talk with enthusiasm in regards to their plans for the future, and talk about how staff are supporting them with this. This helps young people to feel secure and to settle quickly when they move. It also ensures that staff are equipped to meet their needs. As a result, young people develop strong relationships with staff and enjoy spending time together. Young people talk positively about the care they receive and are supported to make progress in important areas of their life. Since the last inspection there have been no complaints, but the young people are confident about being able to use this procedure and feel that they would be listened too. The safeguarding of young people continues to be well managed. Young people say they feel safe. The staff and registered manager refer any safeguarding	

incidents to the relevant professionals. Staff consistently work collaboratively with other professionals to manage risks. Some young people have been missing from the home since the last inspection. During these occasions risks are well assessed by staff. Staff proactively respond well to all missing incidents and continue to work very effectively with other agencies.

New staff continue to be appropriately trained upon joining the service and their knowledge is refreshed regularly. This means that staff are knowledgeable and know how to protect young people from abuse or harm, and know how to respond to any allegations.

Since the last inspection there has been a change in management within the home. The transition has been gradual with the existing registered manager working closely with the deputy manager to avoid any disruption. It is the intention that the deputy manager will make an application to become the registered manager. The existing registered manager will continue to oversee the home and will supervise the deputy manager within her new role as regional manager, this will ensure the consistency of care for young people.

There are no shortfalls emerging from this inspection.

Information about this children's home

This children's home is for up to three children or young people who have emotional and / or behavioural difficulties. It is located in an urban environment and is operated by a large national company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
19/01/2016	CH - Full	Outstanding
21/01/2015	CH - Interim	Sustained effectiveness
30/06/2014	CH - Full	Good
04/02/2014	CH - Interim	Good progress

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*.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, workbased learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It inspects services for looked after children and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2016