

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	03/02/2016
Unique reference number	SC411616
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered person	Calcot Services for Children Limited
Registered person address	Pond View, Wokingham Road, Hurst, Reading, RG10 0SB

Responsible individual	Harvinder Singh
Registered manager	Hayley Wiles
	Cassandra Stribbling
Inspector	Emeline Evans

Inspection date	03/02/2016
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. The relationships between staff and young people continue to be a real strength. The young people thrive in a nurturing, supportive environment where they feel safe. All young people who were living at the home at the last full inspection are still in placement. One young person is due to move on to independent living; she is being very well prepared both emotionally and from a practical point. She has been fully involved in purchasing items and stated she is excited and ready for this move. Young people progress as a result of living in the home, staff recognise there are times when progress has been limited due to young people's emotional fragility. They persevere and are very aware when young people may need extra support. There are very close working relationships with all the necessary professionals to ensure young peoples' emotional and physical health are being met. They are proactive in seeking the necessary specialist help and ensuring communication is maintained. Young people continue to receive well-planned care provided by a committed and competent staff team. Staff provide clear boundaries within a caring environment. Young people have a positive view of the care that they receive and say their relationships with staff are good. Young people spoken to confirm that they feel safe and that they feel they would be able to talk to staff if they were worried or anxious. There have not been any instances where young people have gone missing from the home since the last inspection. Direct work is regularly undertaken to explore young people's feelings and relationships. They are able to openly talk to staff due to the attachments that have been formed. Staff are successful in helping young people to see setbacks as opportunities to effect change that may prevent recurrence. Since the last inspection, there have been no physical interventions and only one sanction. This was appropriate and the young person fully understood the reason for this. There is strong leadership and management in the home. The manager knows the	

strengths of the team and areas for development. These are shared with the staff, so they are working to common goals outlined in the development plan. Young people are fully involved in this process and are able to see how their views make a difference. This enables their confidence and self-esteem to be further enhanced.

Staff are confident in their roles and key workers well informed on the needs and progress of their key child. There is thorough monitoring of the service both through the visits by the independent visitor and monthly checks and six-monthly evaluations by the manager. These systems are used to good effect to identify shortfalls and take appropriate action. There is a commitment from the management and staff team to further raise the standard of care provided to the young people within the service.

There was one requirement and three recommendations made at the last inspection, all have been met. Local authority placement plans and review paperwork is now on young people's files, this enables staff to be clear on the aims of the placement and any actions required. Since the last inspection, staff have completed training in preventing radicalisation and extremism, staff were positive about this and feel they have the skills to recognise signs that young people may be at risk and know the referral process to follow. The manager has also met with the local specialist police officer. The Statement of Purpose has been revised to clearly define the therapeutic input available to young people and staff are now able to acknowledge how these are implemented in practice. The staff team are involved in reflective supervision to enhance their knowledge in this area further.

Information about this children's home

The home is privately owned by an established company. The home is registered to accommodate a maximum of three young people who may have emotional and behavioural difficulties. A therapeutic approach is taken in working with children and young people with the aim of enabling them to return to their family home, an alternative family placement or move on to independent living.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
03/11/2015	CH - Full	Outstanding
25/03/2015	CH - Interim	sustained effectiveness
19/12/2014	CH - Full	Outstanding
26/02/2014	CH - Interim	Satisfactory Progress

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 meets 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.

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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