

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC417031
Inspector	Deborah White
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Pathways Care Group Limited
Registered person address	The Old Stables 1 Grove Hill Road HARROW Middlesex HA1 3AA
Responsible individual	Colin William Farebrother
Registered manager	David Andrew Grayson
Date of last inspection	10/12/2014

Inspection date	03/03/2015
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Previous inspection	good
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**.

Young people are progressing and have good outcomes. They are settled in the home and have very good relationships with staff. Young people are growing in confidence and learning about resilience. This prepares them for challenges later life. A young person said, 'All is good. This is a good place to live, I am happy here.'

Young people are provided with the services they need. The Registered Manager and staff team are developing very good inter-agency working relationships, with inspiring results. There are a number of examples where multi-disciplinary working is positively improving young people's lives. These include supporting a young person in their transition to independent living; supporting young people to maintain their education and supporting young people through crisis. A staff member said, 'One of the best things since the last inspection is better working with other agencies. We have learned so much and the young people are much better supported.'

The Registered Manager and staff actively advocate for young people to ensure their rights are respected. They speak up in professional's meetings and will challenge interventions they do not think are in the best interests of young people. This has resulted in young people better engaging in their care-plans and better complying with reasonable, agreed boundaries.

Staffing levels are good and meet the needs of young people. The staff team are committed in their role and morale is very good. All staff say they are very well supported and have a good relationship with leaders and managers. This provides young people with a stable environment.

There have been some environmental improvements that ensure the young people live in a comfortable home. A new shower room has been created as a result of a direct request from a young person; windows have been replaced to make the home

warmer; and a new car has been purchased. This shows the provider invests in the children's home.

Monitoring in the home has improved since the provider employed the services of an external agency to undertake Regulation 33 visits. The reports are detailed and clearly show the home's strengths and areas of development. Consultation with young people is good and productive. This shows young people's views and wishes are taken seriously.

The home has progressed by meeting a recommendation from the last inspection. Written risk assessments now include the seriousness and likelihood of known risks to young people. This gives a much clearer picture of how young people's care and welfare may be affected by risk taking behaviour. Staff know the strategies in place to reduce risks for each young person. This keeps them safe.

There are no new requirements or recommendations arising from this inspection.

Information about this children's home

This children's home provides care and accommodation for four young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties. The home is operated by a private provider.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/12/2014	Full	good
17/03/2014	Interim	good progress
10/05/2013	Full	good
01/02/2013	Interim	good progress

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.