

Children's homes - interim inspection

Inspection date	01/02/2016
Unique reference number	SC453372
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered manager	Gary Snaith
Inspector	Colin Imrie

Inspection date	01/02/2016
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 full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has sustained effectiveness. Since the previous inspection one child has left the home and no children or young people have been admitted to the home. Three children and young people have remained living in the home. The three children and young people who are currently living at the home have all made good progress. All three were spoken to by the inspector and all three confirmed that they were happy at the home that they felt safe and that they felt they were doing well. Two of the children are making good progress at school with very good attendance. Both voluntarily attend homework club and both are achieving well. One of these children has been made an ambassador at their school which means they get the opportunity to represent the school at various events. An accolade only earned by very few pupils. One young person continues to attend college and is about to complete a level two Health and Social Care qualification which is an excellent achievement. This young person is approaching their eighteenth birthday and has already been offered a full time job in the career of their choice and they are also taking driving lessons. This young person is approaching independence and is clearly ready for this step into adult life. The other two children are making progress in all areas of their lives as well. Both the children have very full lives, being involved in many hobbies and interests at school and in the community. These range from singing and drama to netball and horse riding. Staff also support family contact well and supervise this when needed. The older young person leads a full and independent life and spend less time with staff now. The one child who was discharged had some challenging behaviour and staff were unable to care for them in a positive manner. This child was asking to leave and live elsewhere but was going through a difficult period in their life. Their behaviour was starting to impact on the other children and young people negatively. The staff were able to plan this discharge but it was hurried in the end and was not a positive outcome for this child. Generally care planning continues to be good. Children and young people have individualised care and staff are very nurturing and caring. Boundaries and	

expectations are clear and firm and staff balance a nurturing approach well with clear guidance.

Children and young people at this home are kept very safe. No child or young person has gone missing. Staff have only used one physical intervention and only two appropriate sanctions. There have been no child protection concerns and a couple of incidents of bullying have been well dealt with by staff and resolved quickly.

The manager has completed all the requirements and the recommendation from the previous inspection. Although the children and young people are making very good progress there has not been a great deal of development at the home in the period since the last inspection. A requirement has been made for the registered manager to receive his supervision from a more experienced and professional person and this may enable him to reflect more widely on the overall task of further developing and improving the home. Three recommendations have also been made. The manager does offer good support to the staff and there is regular supervision and training in place for the staff.

The manager does have contact with a range of external professionals and does engage additional supports and services when needed. The manager is able to challenge others when appropriate.

Information about this children's home

The home is run by a private organisation and is registered for the care and accommodation of up to four children with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties (EBD)

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
03/11/2015	CH - Full	Good
25/03/2015	CH - Interim	sustained effectiveness
11/06/2014	CH - Full	Good
03/03/2014	CH - Interim	Good 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.

Requirement	Due date
33: Employment of staff The registered person must ensure that all employees- (b) receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience. (Regulation 33(4)(b)) In particular this relates to the supervision of the registered manager.	05/05/2016

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- Ensure that each child's transition is planned and includes a Pathway Plan. (The Guide to the Quality Standards, page 57 paragraph 11.9)
- Ensure that information about the child is recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child. (The Guide to the Quality Standards page 62 paragraph 14.4)
- Ensure that children's views are listened to and acted upon. (The Guide to the Quality Standards page 22 paragraph 4.11)

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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