

## **Children's homes - interim inspection**

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|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | <b>29/01/2016</b>      |
| <b>Unique reference number</b> | <b>SC456910</b>        |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | <b>Interim</b>         |
| <b>Provision subtype</b>       | <b>Children's home</b> |
| <b>Registered manager</b>      | <b>Beverley Goode</b>  |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | <b>Norma Welsby</b>    |

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| <b>Inspection date</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>29/01/2016</b> |
| <b>Previous inspection judgement</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Good</b>       |
| <b>Enforcement action since last inspection</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>None</b>       |
| <b>This inspection</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                   |
| <p><b>The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection</b></p> <p>This home was judged <b>Good</b> at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has <b>Sustained Effectiveness</b>.</p> <p>Since the full inspection the home has continued to operate effectively. Young people who were living at the home at the full inspection have moved on in a planned way, either to semi-independent living or to live closer to their placing authority. During their placement at the home both young people had enjoyed a long period of stability and had made good progress. The team supports young people's transitions well by working in partnership with social workers and families. New admissions to the home are also carefully considered. The Registered Manager provides clear leadership and the team as a whole is very focussed on ensuring young people achieve good outcomes as a result of their placement in this home.</p> <p>Young people enjoy really positive relationships with staff. On returning home from school they were observed to be clearly delighted to see staff and greeted them in an affectionate and appropriate way. Young people say they feel safe and well cared for and they are able to talk to staff. Young people understand why staff take action they do, such as following them if they leave the home in a distressed and emotional state of mind. Really good attention is given to keeping young people safe and helping young people develop a better awareness of how to keep themselves safe. During this inspection, consultation with social workers conveyed very positive comments. One social worker who recently placed a young person at the home said: 'it is early days, but feeling really optimistic about this placement. I know this home well and have seen what they can achieve'.</p> <p>Staff provide very personalised care. They are knowledgeable about young people's complex needs. They demonstrate a really good understanding of young people's behaviour and the impact past experiences continue to have. Staff provide young people with stability and security and unconditional positive regard. They also ensure young people are clear about boundaries and expectations. They talk openly and frankly with young people to develop their own awareness and understanding of the impact of their behaviour. Staff liaise well with the social workers and families and secure specialist support when necessary.</p> |                   |

The team supports education well. Staff have clear expectations that young people will attend school. They support young people who have had disrupted education to return to school, providing incentives and praising their achievements. Young people benefit from one-to-one support from staff and having lots of social and leisure opportunities. Young people are regularly consulted and benefit from knowing their opinions are valued. These experiences give young people opportunities to develop their confidence and self-esteem. They also learn to form positive attachments to staff and invest in the success of the placement and their future.

At the full inspection two requirements and two good practice recommendations were made. The manager has responded well to each of these areas. As a result records relating to managing young people's behaviour have been improved and are reviewed more regularly. The environment has also been improved to ensure that throughout high standards are maintained and that its appearance reflects the young people who live there. A staff issue that led to young people being exposed to poor role modelling was fully dealt with ensuring staff are clear about how they are expected to conduct themselves at all times.

As a result of this inspection, one good practice recommendation is made. This relates to the manager's review of quality. While this report is very thorough, more emphasis is needed on evaluating the findings of the review and how this can positively contribute to the manager making continuous improvements in the home.

## Information about this children's home

The home is registered for up to two young people. It is owned and operated by national provider of children's services. The home looks after young people who display emotional and behavioural needs.

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement   |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 30/06/2015      | CH - Full       | Good                   |
| 13/01/2015      | CH - Interim    | improved effectiveness |
| 15/05/2014      | CH - Full       | Adequate               |
| 12/11/2013      | 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.

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### Recommendations

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

- The Review of Quality (Regulation 45) should enable the registered person to identify areas of strength and possible weakness in the home's care, which will be captured in the written report. The report should clearly identify any actions required for the next 6 months of delivery within the home and how those actions will be addressed. The whole review process and the resulting report should be used as a tool for continuous improvement in the home. Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations including the quality standards, page 65, paragraph 15.4.

## **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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