

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC046524
Inspector	Paul Taylor
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Secure Unit

Registered person	Sheffield City Council
Registered person address	Sheffield City Council, Town Hall Pinstone Street SHEFFIELD S1 2HH
Responsible individual	Dorne Collinson
Registered manager	Kieran Ian Hill
Date of last inspection	01/07/2014

Inspection date	10/03/2015
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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**.

At the last inspection carried out in July 2014 one requirement was made relating to ensuring that the views of stakeholders, particularly young people, were taken into account during reviews of care carried out by the Registered Manager. This has been fully addressed. Young people are routinely consulted in all aspects of the running of the home. They have active and meaningful input into decisions taken. Examples include, being involved in interviewing prospective members of staff, meeting building contractors to give their opinion about refurbishment and having an influence on decisions regarding menus and activities. A young person stated, 'They listen to me. I feel really involved.' As a result of consultation, the young people in the home feel their views and opinions are taken seriously and acted upon.

Parents and professionals have their opinions sought about the quality of care by the independent monitoring visitor. This ensures that external scrutiny of practice is supported by opinions of stakeholders who do not work in the home. Feedback to the visitor by these stakeholders has been very positive and complimentary about the approach and care shown by the staff to the young people.

Scrutiny of incidents involving physical restraint continues to be rigorous. Each incident is assessed and analysed by a manager as well as subject to review by an external representative from the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB). Learning points are identified and addressed, and as a result behaviour management plans and practice are amended and improved. This leads to a greater understanding of behaviours and active reflection on practice. A young person said, 'I didn't really know what wound me up when I first came here. I do now. They've helped me think about how I behave.'

Although incidents of physical restraint are well recorded and assessed, not all members of staff consistently sign the written record. While this has not impacted

on care or practice, it does not evidence that the member of staff has endorsed the record to show that they agree with it.

Review of behaviour management plans and strategies continues to be supported by advice and guidance from psychologists and psychiatrists who are on site on a weekly basis. This means that young people's behaviours are subject to rigorous scrutiny and strategies are developed using multi-disciplinary expertise and experience. This ensures that practice is not complacent and that there is a fluid and rapid response to positively support young people who may be experiencing periods of distress and/or presenting challenging behaviour.

Since the last inspection the manager of the home has been registered with Ofsted. The home now has an established manager who provides stability and clear leadership. Additionally, two assistant managers have been appointed to support the Registered Manager in his role. This means the home now has an established management team which offers good quality support to staff. A staff member stated, 'I'm better supported here than I have been at any place I have ever worked.'

Planning and support for young people newly admitted to the home is of a good standard. All young people have prompt planning meetings and this ensures everyone involved, young people and professionals alike, agree a plan of what being looked after in secure accommodation will achieve for a young person. Support for young people who have moved on from the home is also well thought through and structured. Ongoing outreach support for young people in the community is provided where needed. This increases young people's chances of stability and success at their next placement.

Information about this children's home

This secure children's home is operated by a local authority and is approved by the Secretary of State to restrict young people's liberty. Education is provided on site.

The children's home can accommodate up to eight young people, who are aged up to 17 years. Admission of any young person under 13 years of age requires the approval of the Secretary of State.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/07/2014	Full	good
11/02/2014	Interim	satisfactory progress
03/10/2013	Full	good
22/01/2013	Interim	satisfactory progress

What does the children's home need to do to improve further?

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 Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Reg.	Requirement	Due date
17B (2001)	ensure that within 24 hours of the use of any measure of control or discipline in a children's home a written record is made in a volume kept for the purpose which shall include the signature of the person authorised by the registered provider to make the record. (Regulation 17B (3)(i))	31/03/2015

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.