

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number SC005048

Inspector Phillip Morris

Type of inspection Interim

Provision subtype Residential special school (>295 days/year)

Registered person Care Today (Children's Services) Ltd

Registered person address Lansdowne House 85 Buxton Road STOCKPORT

Cheshire SK2 6LR

Responsible individual Vivien Anne Snape **Registered manager** Beverley Louise Tuck

Date of last inspection 21/11/2014

Inspection date	11/03/2015
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**.

The education of young people is valued by the staff team. Attendance at school remains good. Young people enjoy going to school. They are making progress and are fully supported by staff. This means that young people's attainment remains on track to achieve successful outcomes.

Young people continue to progress in all areas of their lives. Through taking part and enjoying a wide range of interesting and exciting activities. For example, rock climbing, kayaking, fishing and sports. These opportunities help to build their physical fitness and learn new skills. This is impacting positively on their self-esteem, confidence, independence and self-care skills.

Improvement in the behaviour of young people is rewarded with positive praise, nurture and emotional warmth from a committed staff team. Sanctions and restraint are used in exceptional circumstances. This means that young people develop understand of socially acceptable behaviour and understand compromise and negotiation.

Admissions and discharges to the home have taken place since the last inspection. Two young people have moved from the home and these moves were both planned. The home worked collaboratively with agencies ensuring appropriate information was shared for the benefit of the young people. There has been one admission to the home. This was an emergency admission. The home ensured they sought sufficient information at the time of admission to meet the young person needs. The Registered Manager ensures the location risk assessment is updated.

The Registered Manager has a good understanding of the strengths of this service and areas for improvement. Quality assurance monitoring occurs through monthly visits from an independent visitor. Additionally the Registered Manager completes reports with action plans based on these visits.

At the full inspection requirements and recommendations were made. The Registered Manager and the management team have responded promptly to these to ensure they are met.

Staff members are supported, supervised and accountable in their work with young people. They receive regular supervision, guidance and appraisal in their work with young people. Ongoing training and development opportunities help develop the working practices of staff, especially in regards to safeguarding, managing behaviour and understanding equality and diversity.

The home provides a therapeutic service to ensure that young people's emotional needs are understood and met. Young people will receive a therapeutic needs assessment, should this be considered necessary by the local authority, agencies and the home. This assessment helps to inform the care plan for the young person and ensure their emotional needs are met.

Young people's safeguarding needs are met. As a consequence, young people are not placing themselves at risk through going missing or becoming involved in using alcohol, drugs or involvement with sexual exploitation.

Information about this children's home

The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for eight young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. The home is owned by a private company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/11/2014	Full	good
26/03/2014	Interim	satisfactory progress
08/11/2013	Full	outstanding
07/11/2012	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.

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