

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC033152
Inspector	Nicola McEvinney
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	North Lincolnshire Council
Registered person address	North Lincolnshire Council, Pittwood House Ashby Road SCUNTHORPE South Humberside DN16 1AB
Responsible individual	Darren Chaplin
Registered manager	Lesley McKenzie
Date of last inspection	20/01/2015

Inspection date	27/03/2015
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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 **sustained effectiveness**.

This inspection assessed the progress made since the last full inspection conducted in late January 2014, when the home was judged to be good overall. Outcomes, quality of care and safeguarding were judged to be outstanding. One requirement was raised at that inspection which has been fully addressed. The Registered Manager has introduced a system to ensure that the Regulation 33 monitoring reports are sent promptly to Ofsted. This ensures that the regulatory body has good oversight of the home.

The home continues to provide an excellent service to children, young people and their families in the area. One parent said, 'We would not be without it'. Another parent said, 'I think it is lovely, they make us feel very welcome and (name) is very happy.'

The children and young people are cared for by a highly committed and experienced staff team. They are enthusiastic in ensuring that the children and young people are provided with a valuable experience when they come for a visit. Good forethought ensures that the building is ready for the group of children or young people who will be attending each short break. For example, bedrooms are prepared for the individual child or young person with their personal likes and dislikes. Some young people have been disturbed by the telephone ringing in the lounge, so steps have been taken to ensure that this does not happen. Detailed handover sessions ensure all information is shared and effective strategies are discussed to ensure that a consistent approach is maintained.

Parents were very complimentary about the good liaison that the home has with the child or young person's school. Parents said, 'It is good that we (the school and the home) all meet at the same time rather than having separate meetings, it means that we share strategies and routines.'

Children and young people are safe in the home. A parent commended the vigilance of the staff team when a relative went to pick their child up but was refused as they did not have the necessary identification. Parents say, 'I can relax because I know he is safe there.' There are no safeguarding issues. One physical intervention has been recorded since the last inspection. This was to guide a young person away from potential conflict. However, physical interventions are rare, this being the first in over a year.

The home is in the process of looking at taking children and young people with more complex health needs. There is on-going consultation with health care professionals and specific training is to be organised by the nurse educator to ensure the staff team have the necessary skills to provide specific care for this group of children and young people. The Registered Manager is proactive in visiting other settings where this type of support is provided, in order to share good practice. The staff team are enthusiastic in this new venture as well as providing an outreach service to families they work with. This demonstrates the versatility of the staff team who acknowledge that they know the children and young people they work with and are best placed to offer additional services in the family home if required.

Information about this children's home

This service is a young people's home run by a local authority. The home is registered to provide a service for up to six young people, who have a learning disability and may also have a physical disability.

The home offers a short-term respite service only; no one is accommodated on a long-term basis and one of the six places is used only for emergency short breaks.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
20/01/2015	Full	good
18/03/2014	Interim	good progress
12/09/2013	Full	outstanding
13/02/2013	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.