

Lower Roach End Farm

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	16/01/2017
Unique reference number	SC005048
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Residential special school
Registered provider	The Partnership of Care Today Children's Services
Registered provider address	Lansdowne House, 85 Buxton Road, Stockport, Cheshire SK2 6LR

Responsible individual	Vivien Snape
Registered manager	Beverley Tuck
Inspector	Dave Carrigan

Inspection date	16/01/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Sustained effectiveness
Enforcement action since last inspection	None

This inspection

The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children since the most recent full inspection

This home was judged **good** at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has **sustained effectiveness**.

Children and young people are making good progress because they are living in a safe and stable environment. Staff demonstrate commitment to meeting the young people's needs and keeping them safe. Children and young people understand why they are here and know what to expect because staff fully engage them in the planning and reviewing of their daily lives and futures.

Staff recognise that education is an important part of children and young people's lives. They support and encourage children and young people to attend the in-house school provision daily. Staff are proud of what the children and young people have achieved. They understand that the transition into a routine of regular education can be difficult and are working with all of the children and young people to achieve this.

Children and young people say that they feel safe, with one reporting, 'The staff look after us and make sure we are alright.' Staff receive safeguarding training as part of their induction to the home. This ensures that they are confident in the procedures to follow, should any concerns arise. The organisation has a number of policies and procedures designed to safeguard young people, and these receive regular review.

The manager ensures that children and young people continue to be registered with the various local healthcare services and are supported to attend appointments. Specialist support continues to be available to meet the emotional and psychological needs of children and young people through individual therapeutic sessions. Appropriate arrangements are established for the safe management of medicines to promote the safety and well-being of children and young people.

Incidents of children and young people going missing from this home are rare. This reflects the staff team's ability to engage with children and young people and work with them to address any concerns or issues they may have. The use of restraint is low despite some challenging behaviour. This demonstrates the home's commitment to supporting children young people to manage their own behaviours

to good effect.

Children and young people benefit from a physically safe and appropriately secure environment. Fire safety and general health and safety checks are regularly completed.

The home continues to be managed by a suitably qualified manager who has been in post since May 2014. Staff are supported through formal supervision and annual appraisal. Training and development opportunities for staff are available with access to both internal and external training courses.

There has been limited progress in ensuring that the children and young people's guide is more age appropriate for the children and young people living in the home. This previous recommendation has now been raised as a requirement.

Information about this children's home

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

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
31/05/2016	Full	Good
27/01/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
21/07/2015	Full	Good
11/03/2015	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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 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 must comply with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
<p>7: The children's views, wishes and feelings standard</p> <p>In order to meet the protection of children standard, the registered provider must ensure that staff—</p> <p>2(c) keep the children's guide under review and seek children's comments before revising the document;</p> <p>d) ensure that an explanation is given to each child as soon as reasonably practicable after the child's arrival about—</p> <p>(i) the children's guide</p>	<p>08/02/2017</p>

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 that 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 whom 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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