

Newlands

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	11/01/2017
Unique reference number	SC415347
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Options BESD (1) Limited
Registered provider address	Turnpike Gate House, Alcester Heath, Alcester, Warwickshire B49 5JG

Responsible individual	Richard Jones
Registered manager	Kevin Brammer
Inspector	Paul Robinson

Inspection date	11/01/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Requires improvement
Enforcement action since last inspection	None
This inspection	
The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection	
<p>This home was judged requires improvement at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has improved effectiveness.</p> <p>Since the last inspection, there have been no new admissions or discharges from the home. This stability has enabled young people to thrive. The registered manager and staff have worked hard to improve the quality and consistency of care provided to young people.</p> <p>Staff support and encouragement means that all young people are accessing full time education and making academic progress. Staff are ambitious for young people, supporting them to identify further education opportunities. For example, staff have supported one young person to explore a college course and an apprenticeship.</p> <p>Staff ensure that young people have the skills, confidence and motivation to engage in a range of positive activities. For example, one young person is part of a rugby team and another young person is in a football team. Both young people are committed to attending training and matches at least three times a week. This is a real achievement given that these young people have previously been reluctant to engage in group-based activities.</p> <p>Young people are consistently positive about staff and enthusiastically told the inspector how easy going, fun and down to earth the staff are. Young people feel valued, listened to and well cared for. The quality of these relationships has promoted improvements in young people’s behaviours with no missing-from-home incidents or physical interventions required. As a result, young people are becoming increasingly safe.</p> <p>Since the last inspection, there has only been one complaint. This was responded to swiftly, with follow up action including additional training being offered to all staff.</p> <p>Staff work collaboratively with partner agencies, including the police, school and placing authorities. This ensures that young people make good progress educationally, socially and emotionally.</p>	

The registered manager demonstrates a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the home. The registered manager's quality assurance and monitoring systems have ensured that the seven requirements raised at the last inspection have been addressed.

Information about this children's home

The privately-owned home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three children and young people aged from 11 to 17 years at any one time. It provides care and accommodation for three children and young people who have emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
15/08/2016	Full	Requires improvement
21/10/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
12/05/2015	Full	Good
10/02/2015	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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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