

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	09/02/2017
Unique reference number	1216505
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Hennessy Living Group Ltd
Registered provider address	Helme Hall, Helme Lane, Holmfirth HD9 5RL

Responsible individual	Diane Jones
Registered manager	Lisa Clyde
Inspector	Michael Dack

Inspection date	09/02/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Requires improvement
Enforcement action since last inspection	None
This inspection	
<p>The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection</p> <p>This home was judged requires improvement at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness.</p> <p>At the time of this inspection, the home has only one placement and at this stage it is uncertain whether this placement will continue. However, the registered manager and staff remain committed and provide consistency in meeting the young person's needs as determined within the care plan.</p> <p>The last inspection was the home's first full inspection, and there were six requirements and one recommendation. The registered manager and staff team have demonstrated their commitment by meeting them in full. They have, therefore, made very good progress in a short space of time, which is testament to good leadership and working in partnership.</p> <p>The care plan in place has been improved, and is now a 'living document'. Changes are noted in a timely manner, and the management team completes weekly monitoring checks. There is good evidence of the staff working with the young person. The registered manager said: 'The young person often takes out a part of his plan to discuss with me in more depth, asking questions, and he is really interested in how we support him.' This individual work with the young people enables them to express their wishes and views according to their level of understanding. The knowledge of the staff, gained through information and observations, and collaboration with parents and other professionals have provided excellent plans to be put in place which improve outcomes for the young people. A parent said: 'All the staff have done a great job. From a communication perspective, they have been really good and seek advice from us and have acted upon this.'</p> <p>Work with the young people is now evidenced and audited on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. There is an extensive key-worker file in place, which is current and child-centred. Mostly, all documentation in relation to care planning is in the process of being individualised with the young person, including many examples such as photographs of the young person enjoying activities inside and outside the home. A trip to the open-air museum Beamish is one example of providing an opportunity to learn and socialise within the community. Although visits such as this may be challenging for young people who have a learning disability, they help</p>	

in providing the young people with different social experiences and opportunities for stimulation and self-expression within a safe environment.

Risk assessments in place are extremely robust and are updated in a timely manner. The staff are very good at managing behaviours. This is supported by the high staffing ratios in place and the staff's knowledge, which is reinforced through training and observations of young people. Allegations, negative claims and comments are robustly investigated. Due to the necessary requirements of safeguarding, the registered manager has proactively worked in partnership with the local authority's designated officer and the independent visitor to ensure recording is documented clearly. This provides young people with a safe environment that is transparent and ensures their safety and well-being is paramount at all times.

The home is decorated and maintained to a high standard. It feels homely, and does not feel institutionalised in any way. The young people's bedrooms are spacious and child-centred. Overall, this is a positive living environment, in which staff are very committed to providing positive outcomes for young people.

Information about this children's home

The home accommodates up to five children, including two under short-break arrangements, who have physical and/or learning disabilities. It is operated by a private company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
08/11/2016	Full	Requires improvement

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(s) 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(s) must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
<p>If the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 applies to the home –</p> <p>(b) the registered person must ensure that the requirements of that Order and any regulations under it, except for article 23 (duty of employees), are complied with in respect of the home. (Regulation 25 (2))</p> <p>In particular, this relates to increasing the frequency and number of fire drills and practices undertaken at the home and that persons working at the home and, so far as reasonably practicable, children are aware of the procedure to be followed in case of fire. In addition, ensure that guidance relating to fire alarms and evacuation is provided for visitors.</p>	<p>10/03/2017</p>

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further, the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- Encourage children to see the home’s records as ‘living documents’, supporting them to view and contribute to the record regularly in a way that reflects their voice. In particular, support young people to individualise their involvement without the need for signatures. (‘Guide to the children’s homes regulations including the quality standards’, page 58, paragraph 11.19)

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 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 who 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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