

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	22/02/2017
Unique reference number	SC020171
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Arnfield Care Limited
Registered provider address	Brookbank House, Wellington Road, Bollington, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 5JR

Responsible individual	Wayne Relf
Registered manager	Paul Vella
Inspector	Corrinne Barker

Inspection date	22/02/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Good
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 good at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness.</p> <p>This home continues to provide a high standard of care to young people. It benefits from having an experienced registered manager and a stable, skilled staff team. Young people are able to build trusting relationships with staff due to the consistent and dependable care provided.</p> <p>Young people are making good progress from their starting points. They all have appropriate educational provision in place. Staff support and encourage young people to engage in education, and quickly address any barriers to learning. Staff are ambitious and have high expectations about young people reaching their potential. There are productive relationships between home and school, with good communication and information sharing. This has been instrumental in managing safeguarding risks.</p> <p>Staff implement comprehensive behaviour and risk management plans. This helps to keep young people safe while providing a caring and nurturing environment with clear structure, boundaries and daily routines. Over time, this environment encourages young people to regulate their emotions and behaviour. As a result, young people typically see improvement in their relationships with family, peers and staff.</p> <p>Staff manage incidents of missing from care effectively. Independent return interviews are now taking place, giving any young person who has been missing from the home the opportunity to speak to someone independently.</p> <p>Physical intervention is used as a last resort to keep young people safe. Recording of physical intervention is clear, and includes diagrams of each hold employed. This helps staff to debrief and reflect on the incident.</p> <p>Young people are involved in their own care planning. Preparation for key meetings, such as looked after reviews, is very good, with the views of young people being sought throughout. There have been improvements in the quality of direct work with young people. Staff have developed resources to support direct work about a broad range of issues such as self-esteem, anger, stress and anxiety.</p>	

These resources can be adapted to meet each young person's developmental needs.

The two recommendations made at the full inspection have been met, evidencing the capacity of the leadership team to make and sustain positive changes.

Managers know the strengths and weaknesses of the home and demonstrate insight into how well the home meets the individual needs of young people. There are robust monitoring systems in place.

Staff have access to a good range of training opportunities and recently have implemented a new approach to behaviour management. Training in this intervention provides staff with a theoretical base for their work with young people. Staff use high levels of praise and positive reinforcement to increase young people's confidence, self-worth and self-belief. Staff have improved the way that they recognise good behaviours, using rewards to enhance young people's development through positive experiences. This has led to noticeable improvements in young people's ability to manage their own behaviours and emotional responses.

Information about this children's home

This home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to seven children and young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home is owned by a private company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
12/10/2016	Full	Good
12/01/2016	Interim	Improved effectiveness
28/07/2015	Full	Good
26/02/2015	Interim	Declined in 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 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'.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, workbased learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It inspects services for looked after children and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017