

1256135

Registered provider: Homes2inspire Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately owned children's home is operated by a national provider. It is registered to provide care for up to five children who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Inspection date: 29 November 2017

Judgement at last inspection: Requires improvement to be good

Date of last inspection: 24 July 2017

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

This home was judged requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection. At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.

This inspection took place after two serious incidents took place. One incident is still under investigation and involved a car accident. At this time, there is no evidence to suggest that this incident was anything other than an accident. The second incident was managed well and evidenced good partnership working with the police.

Since the last inspection, there have been a number of young people moving in and out of the home. Within a four-week period, three new young people moved into the home on an emergency basis and one young person moved out. This led to a period of instability for the young people. This has been further compounded by the two recent incidents. Furthermore, the manager did not fully consider each new admission and how having so many transitions so close together would impact on the young people and staff group. As a result, bullying has taken place at the home. Staff recognised this and took action to protect young people.

None of the new young people have an educational placement. The young person who was attending education is now struggling to attend. As a result, young people's educational needs are not fully met.

The home's environment is poor in some areas. For example, there is ripped wallpaper in one young person's bathroom, chewing gum stuck to the wall and a cracked light fitting in the lounge. However, managers and staff have taken swift action to resolve these issues.

The registered manager has not ensured that the statement of purpose has been updated and sent to Ofsted in accordance with regulatory requirements.

More positively, young people, staff and professionals, including social workers and police officers, talk positively about the home. A young person told the inspector that he liked it at the home, understood the rules and has good, supportive relationships with the staff team.

The previous requirements have been met and managers have taken action to make improvements, some of which are ongoing. There is now a full staff team and young people are now supported by higher staffing ratios. Staff have undergone tailor-made training and further training is booked to take place. Staff report that this training is having a positive impact on their daily practice.

Physical restraints are now recorded correctly with debriefs taking place for both young people and staff. The management team has good oversight of these and has developed new monitoring techniques to ensure the quality and consistency of these records.

Risk assessments and behaviour management plans are up to date and provide clear guidance for staff. Staff feel supported by the management team. A police officer told the inspector, 'I've been involved with the home since it opened. We have a few challenges particularly at the moment. We do work really well together, we work proactively and we try to anticipate problems. They [managers and staff] really give young people a chance when others haven't as they feel they can work with them. Staff are brilliant at talking to them at their level, being direct and calming them down.'

Previous to the new young people being admitted, the number of incidents had decreased. Young people were making progress. For example, incidents when young people went missing had decreased.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/07/2017	Full	Requires improvement to be good

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, the 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>The education standard is that children make measurable progress towards achieving their educational potential and are helped to do so.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure that staff—</p> <p>help each child to attend education or training in accordance with the expectations in the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 8(1)(2)(a)(x))</p>	17/01/2018
<p>The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure that—</p> <p>the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm;</p> <p>the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health. (Regulation 12(1)(2)(b)(d))</p>	17/01/2018
<p>The care planning standard is that children receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that arrangements are in place to ensure the effective induction of each child into the home. (Regulation 14(1)(a)(2)(b)(i))</p>	17/01/2018
<p>The registered person must keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision. (Regulation 16(3)(a)(b))</p>	17/01/2018

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the differences made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and 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.

Using the 'Social care common inspection framework', this inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, 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'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1256135

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Homes2inspire Limited

Registered provider address: Prospects House, 19 Elmfield Road, Bromley BR1 1LT

Responsible individual: Kenneth Farrimond

Registered manager: Jennifer Cooper

Inspector

Louise Battersby, social care inspector

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