

1234317

Registered provider: Care 4 Children Residential Services Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to six children or young people who have emotional and/or behavioural problems. The home is privately owned and run.

Inspection date: 24 January 2018

Judgement at last inspection: good

Date of last inspection: 10 October 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 good at the last full inspection. At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness.

All of the children living at the home make good progress. The children begin to establish trusting relationships with staff that enable them to engage with the therapy that is offered as part of their care. As a result, children become more emotionally resilient, learn to manage their emotions in a more positive manner, and become more open to learning from the positive experiences that they are offered. A social worker said: 'There has been improvement in all areas of her life. She is engaged in education and regularly gets star of the week with really positive reports. This is all brand new for her, it has never happened before. She used to cause chaos.'

Since the last inspection, there have been no complaints. Incidents that would require the staff to physically intervene have reduced. However, the recording of these events does not meet regulations. Children have not been debriefed by staff who were not involved in the intervention, such as the manager or a 'designated person'.

Children, as a result of the care they receive, are considered by professionals to be at a significantly reduced risk of child sexual exploitation. They do not engage in drug or alcohol misuse, and incidents of missing from home have significantly reduced. When children have been missing for very short periods of time, the staff have acted swiftly and in line with protocols and procedures. However, there is no system for recording the outcome of 'return home interviews' following incidents of missing from home. Nor is there the facility to collate any feedback from the interviewer. As a result, opportunities to use feedback to better inform risk assessments are missed. Staff fully understand the vulnerabilities and risks that face each child.

The manager understands the areas of strength and development for the home. She has clear plans for the future and the priorities to continuously improve children's experiences. For example, a newly designated playroom has been well-equipped and is in constant use by the children.

Other areas of improvements have meant that the requirements that were set previously have been met. The manager has developed and maintained external links with other agencies and worked in partnership with professionals to ensure that children's needs are met. A social worker described the communication by the staff and manager as 'brilliant'. Another social worker said: 'I have nothing but praise for the place.' The recruitment of new staff has been done safely so that children are not exposed to adults who may wish to harm them. This recruitment provides a firm basis for a stable and consistent staff team.

The children who are new to the home experience planned moves, with opportunities to meet the staff and other children before they move. The staff take time to find out the children's likes and dislikes, and ensure that their rooms are decorated to their tastes. This reduces any anxiety they may have about moving into the home and makes them feel welcome. Children who have left the home have done so in a planned and thoughtful manner.

The manager is passionate about the care that the children receive and leads by example. She is clear in her expectations of the staff and takes effective action to address any shortfalls.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/10/2017	Full	Good
29/11/2016	Full	Requires improvement

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person 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 must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
<p>The registered person must keep the behaviour management policy under review, and where appropriate, revise it.</p> <p>The registered person must ensure that—</p> <p>within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so ("the authorised person")—</p> <p>has spoken to the user about the measure.</p> <p>Within five days of the use of the measure, the registered person, or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (2) and (3)(b)(i)(c))</p>	28/02/2018

Recommendation

- When a child return returns to the home after being missing from care or away from the home without permission, the responsible local authority must have an opportunity for the child to have an independent return home interview. Homes should take account of information provided by such interviews when assessing risks and putting arrangements in place to protect each child. ('Guide to the children's home regulations including the quality standards', page 45, and paragraph 9.30)

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: 1234317

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Care 4 Children Residential Services Limited

Registered provider address: 1 Stuart Road, Bredbury Park Industrial Estate, Bredbury, Stockport SK6 2SR

Responsible individual: Martin Hadfield

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Pauline Yates, social care inspector

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, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding 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 1231, 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/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2018