

# 1183911

Registered provider: Young Foundations Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

This home is operated by a private provider. It provides care for children and young people who have an autistic spectrum disorder, and who have complex learning difficulties and/or challenging behaviour. This home can accommodate up to 12 children or young people.

**Inspection date:** 12 February 2018

**Judgement at last inspection:** good

**Date of last inspection:** 22 August 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.

No young people have left this home since the last inspection. New young people are well supported in their transition into this service. Transition packages are bespoke to the young people's complex needs. Before new young people move into the home, some benefit from visits first. Their views are fully taken on board right from the start; for example, they choose their bedroom and furnishings. Making these choices helps them to feel at home and settle quickly.

There is significant improvement in the manager's monitoring of this service. The monitoring systems for overseeing progress and behaviour management are now working well in practice. This focused monitoring on positive behaviour management has resulted in an overall decline in the use of physical intervention.

The manager is well supported in his oversight by the management development team, which meets once a month. This focused monthly review of each of the young person's needs ensures that their progress is ongoing and any issues for individuals are highlighted and addressed. When possible, the young people are involved in their monthly review. The management development team listens to the young people's wishes and adapts their care when possible.

The staff work hard to help the young people rebuild relationships with their families. This helps the young people to develop their sense of identity. This work is so successful for some of the young people and their families that some of the young people, for the first time in many years, are able to enjoy family holidays and weekend stays at home.

The young people's social skills and confidence are significantly improving. Some of the young people who were previously reluctant to go out or join in any activities with others are now accessing a range of activities both at the home and in the community. Their confidence is growing. Some of the young people are trying new experiences such as karaoke, and they are making friends for the first time.

The manager continues to improve working relationships with other specialist professionals such as the service's consultant psychologist, psychiatrist, education psychologist, and speech and language therapist. This ensures that the young people benefit from a full care package that meets their very complex needs. The manager continues to maintain good links with social workers. He acts as an advocate for the young people, providing appropriate challenge when necessary to make sure that the young people receive the service that they deserve.

Complaints are rare. When complaints are received, they are dealt with quickly and in line with company policy.

The staff have undertaken additional training in using alternative communication systems such as symbols and sign language. This is enabling the staff to communicate more effectively, regardless of the young people's level of communication. This successfully meets a recommendation set at the last inspection.

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
22/08/2017	Full	Good
27/09/2016	Full	Requires improvement
09/08/2016	Full	Inadequate

## 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:** 1183911

**Provision sub-type:** Residential special school

**Registered provider:** Young Foundations Limited

**Registered provider address:** Head Office, Suite 1, 2nd Floor, Southwood House, Greenwood Business Centre, Regent Road, Salford M5 4QH

**Responsible individual:** Niall Kelly

**Registered manager:** David Higgins

## Inspector

Jamie Richardson, social care inspector

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